



6105.0 - Australian Labour Market Statistics, Oct 2010

Previous ISSUE Released at 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) 08/10/2010

Summary

Main Features

NOTES

FORTHCOMING ISSUES

ISSUE (QUARTER)	Release Date
January 2011	7 January 2011
April 2011	1 April 2011
July 2011	1 July 2011

DATA CONTAINED IN THIS ISSUE

The statistics shown are the latest available at 6 October 2010. Data sources for the tables in this publication are listed in Appendix 1.

ELECTRONIC PRODUCTS

The spreadsheets and data cubes referenced in this publication are available free of charge on the ABS website at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Statistics - By Catalogue Number - 6. Labour Statistics and Prices].

INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Labour Market Statistics Section on Canberra (02) 6252 7206, email <labour.statistics@abs.gov.au>.

Labour statistics news

LABOUR STATISTICS NEWS

FORTHCOMING CHANGES TO AUSTRALIAN LABOUR MARKET STATISTICS

From January 2011 there will be a number of changes to the content of this publication, **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0). The publication will continue to be released on a quarterly basis and will include a summary of key labour market measures and a range of analytical articles.

Australian Labour Market Statistics (cat. no. 6105.0) will have an increased focus on providing updates on labour market statistical developments. In line with this focus, the biannual newsletter, **Labour Statistics News** (cat. no. 6106.0) will now be incorporated as a core part of **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0).

Please note that from January 2011, data tables 1.1 to 7.1 will no longer be included within this publication. Information will be provided to direct users of these tables to the same data in the standard products from each survey. Tables 1.7, 1.8, 2.7, 2.10, 3.3, 4.6, which currently are not contained in standard ABS products, will continue to be available as data cubes in Excel format on the ABS website under catalogue number 6105.0, until such time as they are incorporated in other ABS standard products. Spreadsheets (Table 1.1, 1.2, 2) will continue to be available within this product on the ABS website as datacubes from the downloads tabs.

If you would like further information about the upcoming changes to **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0) please contact Kirsty Leslie on (02) 6252 5436 or email kirsty.leslie@abs.gov.au.

COMMUNICATION REVIEW

Changes to be implemented in the January 2011 release of **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0) as described above arose from a recent review conducted into the way the ABS communicates information about labour statistics to different users. The communication review considered the purpose, structure and content of vehicles such as this publication, **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0), **Labour Statistics News** (cat. no. 6106.0), and **Topics @ a Glance**. In 2011, further changes will be implemented to better integrate **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0) with the Topics @ a Glance pages on the ABS website.

LABOUR THEME PAGE

The ABS Labour Topics @ a Glance page, available on the ABS website, provides a guide to the full range of ABS statistics on the labour market, as well as links to the latest data releases. To find Topics @ a Glance, go to <https://www.abs.gov.au> [Topics @ a Glance - People - Labour].

RELEASE OF LABOUR STATISTICS NEWS

Labour Statistics News (cat. no. 6106.0) was released on 26 August 2010. **Labour Statistics News** provides users with insight into the ABS labour market statistics program, and informs on recent and upcoming statistical developments. Each issue features updates on current projects, recent highlights, articles and analysis on labour market issues, information on contacts in the ABS labour market statistics area and other related information.

The August 2010 edition will be the final edition of **Labour Statistics News** (cat. no. 6106.0) in a stand alone format. From January 2011, the content of **Labour Statistics News** will be available as part of **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0).

LABOUR MOBILITY

In September 2010 the ABS released **Labour Mobility, Australia, Feb 2010** (cat. no. 6209.0). This publication is released every second year and presents information about people aged 15 years and over who, within the 12 months to February 2010, either had a change of employer/business in their main job, or had some change in work with their current employer/business, for whom they had worked for one year or more. The statistics in this publication were compiled from the Labour Mobility Survey conducted throughout Australia in February 2010 as a supplement to the monthly Labour Force Survey. This topic was the only supplementary survey release since the July 2010 edition of **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0).

REVISION TO POPULATION BENCHMARKS

Labour Force Survey estimates of persons employed, unemployed and not in the labour force are calculated to add up to estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (known as population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are based on Census of Population and Housing data, adjusted for under-enumeration and updated for births, deaths, interstate migration, and net overseas migration.

From the July 2010 issue of **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0), Labour Force Survey estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks that incorporate revisions made to Net Overseas Migration estimates introduced in the September 2008 and September 2009 issues of **Australian Demographic Statistics** (cat. no. 3101.0). The Labour Force Survey population benchmarks have been revised for the period July 2006 to June 2010.

For further information on the impact on labour force estimates, refer to the July **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0), released on 12 August 2010.

ABS EMAIL NOTIFICATION SERVICE

By subscribing to this free service, you will be kept informed via email of the latest releases of ABS products. To subscribe, follow the link from the ABS home page <<https://www.abs.gov.au>>, provide your email address, and select your topics of interest.

RECENT AND UPCOMING STATISTICAL RELEASES

Release date/title of publication	Reference period	Catalogue number
September 2010		
Australian Economic Indicators	(a)October 2010	1350.0
Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure and Product	June 2010	5206.0
Australian Social Trends	(a)September 2010	4102.0
Industrial Disputes, Australia	June 2010	6321.0.55.001
Job Vacancies, Australia	August 2010	6354.0
Labour Force, Australia	August 2010	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	August 2010	6291.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly	August 2010	6291.0.55.003
Labour Mobility, Australia	February 2010	6209.0
October 2010		
Australian Labour Market Statistics	October 2010	6105.0
Australian Economic Indicators	(a)November 2010	1350.0
Labour Force, Australia	September 2010	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	September 2010	6291.0.55.001
November 2010		
Australian Economic Indicators	(a)December 2010	1350.0
Average Weekly Earnings, Australia	August 2010	6302.0
Business Indicators, Australia	September 2010	5676.0
Education and Work, Australia	May 2010	6227.0
Labour Force, Australia	October 2010	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	October 2010	6291.0.55.001
Labour Price Index, Australia	September 2010	6345.0
Microdata: Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility, Basic and Expended CURF, Australia	November 2010	6202.0.30.004
Technical Manual: Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility, Basic and Expended CURF, Australia	February 2010	6202.0.30.005
December 2010		
Australian Economic Indicators	(a)January 2010	1350.0
Australian Social Trends	(a)December 2010	4102.0
Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia	2009 - 2010	6248.0.55.002
Industrial Disputes, Australia	September 2010	6321.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia	November 2010	6202.0
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed - Electronic Delivery	November 2010	6291.0.55.001
Labour Force, Australia, Detailed, Quarterly	November 2010	6291.0.55.003
Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia	May 2010	6306.0
Work Related Injuries, Australia	2009 - 2010	6324.0
January 2011		
Australian Economic Indicators	(a)February 2010	1350.0
Australian Labour Market Statistics	April 2011	6105.0
Job Search Experience, Australia	July 2010	6222.0

(a) Refers to the issue of the publication, not the reference period.

Labour Market Summary

LABOUR MARKET SUMMARY

KEY MEASURES

Measure		Series type	Period	Current figure	% change from Previous qtr(a) Previous year(b)	
Employed						
Persons	'000	Trend	Aug 10	11 258.2	0.6	2.9
Full-time	'000	Trend	Aug 10	7 904.8	0.7	2.9
Part-time	'000	Trend	Aug 10	3 353.3	0.5	3.0
Part-time employment as a proportion of total employment	%	Trend	Aug 10	29.8	(c)0.0	(c)0.0
Employment to population ratio						
Persons	%	Trend	Aug 10	62.0	(c)0.1	(c)0.4
Males	%	Trend	Aug 10	68.7	(c)0.1	(c)0.8
Females	%	Trend	Aug 10	55.5	(c)0.1	(c)0.1
Unemployed						
Persons	'000	Trend	Aug 10	612.6	-1.1	-8.9
Looking for full-time work	'000	Trend	Aug 10	434.4	-2.0	-13.9
Looking for part-time work	'000	Trend	Aug 10	178.2	1.4	5.9
Unemployment rate						
Persons	%	Trend	Aug 10	5.2	(c)-0.1	(c)-0.6
Long-term unemployment						
Persons	'000	Trend	Aug 10	113.4	1.4	10.4
As a proportion of total unemployment	%	Trend	Aug 10	18.5	(c)0.5	(c)3.2
Long-term unemployment rate	%	Trend	Aug 10	1.0	(c)0.0	(c)0.1
Quarterly labour underutilisation rates						
Unemployment rate(d)	%	Trend	Aug 10	5.2	(c)-0.1	(c)-0.6
Underemployment rate	%	Trend	Aug 10	7.2	(c)-0.1	(c)-0.5
Labour force underutilisation rate	%	Trend	Aug 10	12.3	(c)-0.2	(c)-1.1
Children living without an employed parent(e)	%	Original	Jun 09	15.1	(c)0.0	(c)2.6
Labour force participation rate						
Persons aged 15-64 years	%	Trend	Aug 10	76.3	(c)0.1	(c)0.1
Total	%	Trend	Aug 10	65.4	(c)0.1	(c)0.0
Aggregate monthly hours worked						
Persons	mill. hours	Trend	Aug 10	1 589.7	1.0	3.4
Actual hours worked						
Average weekly hours - Persons	hours	Original	Aug 10	34.0	-0.7	1.1
Average weekly hours - Full-time	hours	Original	Aug 10	41.2	-0.8	1.1
Average weekly hours - Part-time	hours	Original	Aug 10	17.0	-0.1	0.4
Part-time workers						
Proportion who preferred to work more hours	%	Original	Aug 10	24.8	(c)0.3	(c)-1.5
Wage price index						
Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses	index no.	Trend	Jun qtr 2010	104.3	0.8	3.0
Average weekly earnings						
Full-time adult ordinary time earnings	\$	Trend	May 10	1 256.30	1.2	5.6
All employees total earnings	\$	Trend	May 10	982.80	1.4	6.2
Industrial disputes						
Working days lost	'000	Original	Jun qtr 2010	24.0	-16.7	-49.3
Working days lost per 1,000 employees number		Original	Jun qtr 2010	2.5	-17.5	-50.5
Job vacancies(f)						
Australia	'000	Original	Aug 10	181.4	10.1	na

na not available

(a) Same period previous quarter (monthly data is presented for the middle month of each quarter).

(b) Same period previous year.

(c) Change is in percentage points.

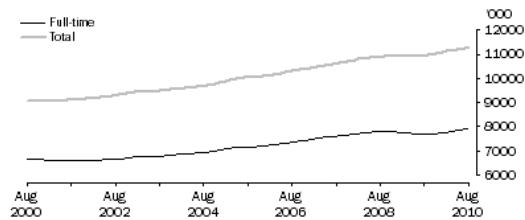
(d) The quarterly trend and seasonally adjusted labour force estimates, unemployment estimates and unemployment rates are compiled using data collected in the quarter months and may differ slightly from the official monthly trend and seasonally adjusted estimates and rates published in Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) and presented in sections 1 and 3 of this publication.

(e) As a proportion of all children aged under 15 years. See the Explanatory Notes for information on family data.

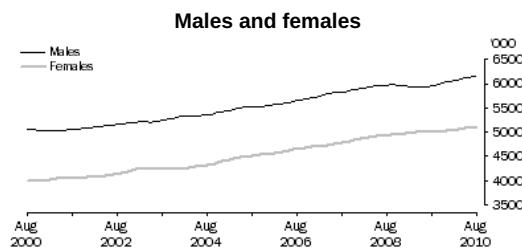
(f) As a result of the Job Vacancy Survey being suspended, no original estimates were produced for five quarters between August 2008 and August 2009 inclusive.

EMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES

Full-time and total employment

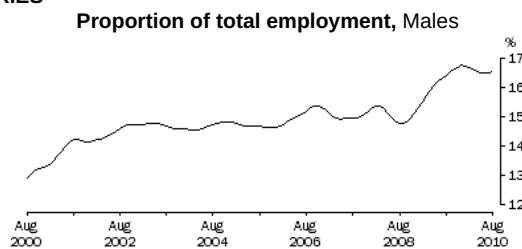


Source: Labour Force Survey.



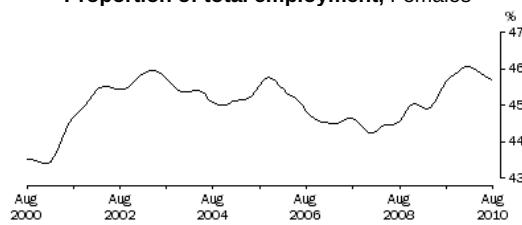
Source: Labour Force Survey.

PART-TIME EMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES



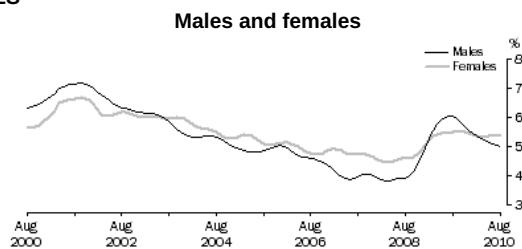
Source: Labour Force Survey.

Proportion of total employment, Females



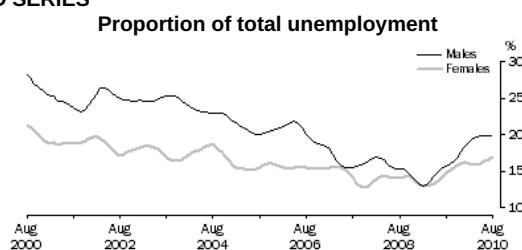
Source: Labour Force Survey.

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE: TREND SERIES



Source: Labour Force Survey.

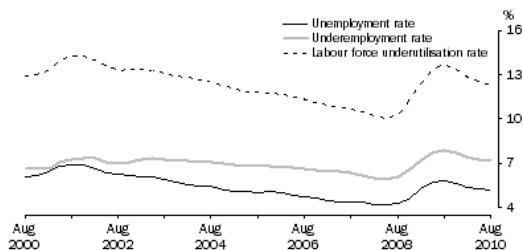
LONG-TERM UNEMPLOYMENT: TREND SERIES



Source: Labour Force Survey.

UNDERUTILISED LABOUR: TREND SERIES

labour force underutilisation rate



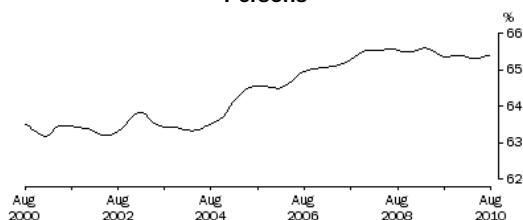
(a) The trend unemployment rate compiled as part of the suite of quarterly labour underutilisation rates may differ from the official monthly unemployment rate as the labour underutilisation rates are subject to a separate seasonal adjustment and trend process.

Note: See the Glossary for further information on the labour underutilisation rates.

Source: Labour Force Survey.

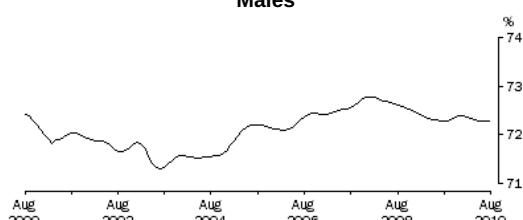
PARTICIPATION RATE: TREND SERIES

Persons



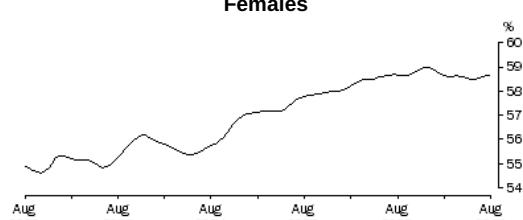
Source: Labour Force Survey.

Males



Source: Labour Force Survey.

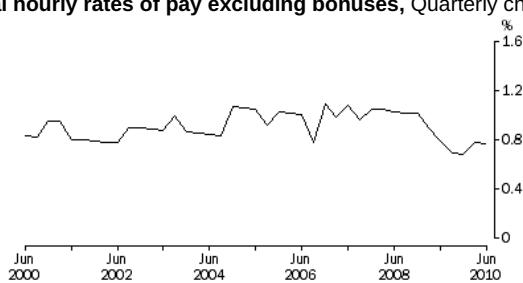
Females



Source: Labour Force Survey.

WAGE PRICE INDEX: TREND SERIES

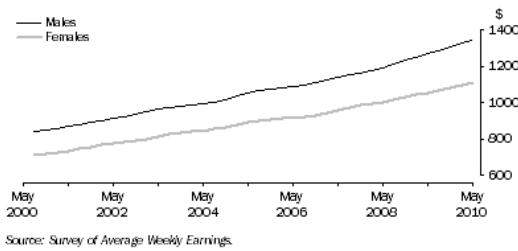
Total hourly rates of pay excluding bonuses, Quarterly change



Source: Labour Price Index.

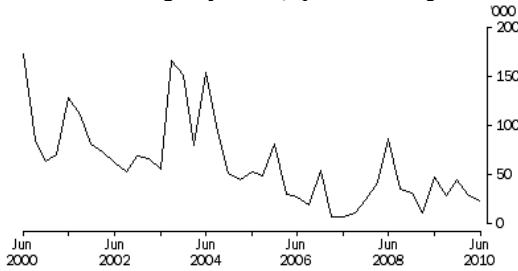
AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS: TREND SERIES

Full time adult ordinary time earnings, Level



INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES: ORIGINAL SERIES

Working Days Lost, Quarter Ending



About this Release

This publication draws together labour statistics from a range of ABS household and business surveys, to provide an overall picture of the labour market. The key purpose of this publication is to raise awareness of the range of data available, so that the data can be used more effectively.

It contains tables for core data items, presenting the most recent data available at a particular date (rather than relating to a particular reference period). The publication is also used to release annual supplementary measures of labour underutilisation, including the extended labour force underutilisation rate and volume measures of labour underutilisation, and an annual time series of employment type.

It includes a range of feature articles, both analytical and technical, which will assist users in understanding and interpreting the data and will also promote the range of data available from the ABS labour statistics program. It is also used to announce changes to labour series or releases.

The publication contains brief explanatory notes, outlining each data source, but refers to the relevant releases, and to Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods 6102.0.55.001, for more detail.

Trends In Hours Worked (Feature Article)

TRENDS IN HOURS WORKED

INTRODUCTION

Are Australians working more than ever? How many hours do we work, especially during times of economic downturn? These are questions often posed in relation to work-life balance and overall labour market performance.

Hours worked estimates over time can provide rich insights into the relative strength of the labour market during different stages of the economic cycle, and the extent to which different groups within the labour market are working different numbers of hours.

This article examines trends over the past 32 years in average actual hours worked per week, and complements and extends the analysis presented in the article "Aggregate Monthly Hours Worked Per Employed Person", published in the July 2010 issue of **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0). That article examined trends over the past 32 years in the aggregate monthly hours worked per employed person by full-time and part-time status, and by sex. The average actual hours worked measures used in this article also allow a more detailed analysis of long-term trends in the distribution of hours worked.

While it may seem as if Australians are working longer hours than ever, the average actual hours worked per employed person have decreased over the past 32 years. However, the average actual hours worked by full-time and part-time employed people have both increased (although average actual hours worked by full-time employed people have been decreasing since 2000). This total decrease, but component increase, can be attributed to the changing full-time to part-time composition of the workforce. These trends in the average actual hours worked for full-time and part-time employed people, and for all employed people, are briefly discussed in this article, along with how average actual hours worked differ for men and women. Trends in the actual hours worked by hours worked cohorts are explored, in particular for those working few (1-15) hours and those on the cusp (30-34 hours) of full-time employment.

Detailed information about the labour force in Australia has been collected on a monthly basis in the Labour Force Survey since February 1978. This article uses estimates from this survey, and from the supplementary survey Forms of Employment. Estimates quoted "over the past 32 years" refer to estimates in February 1978 and July 2010, except where noted.

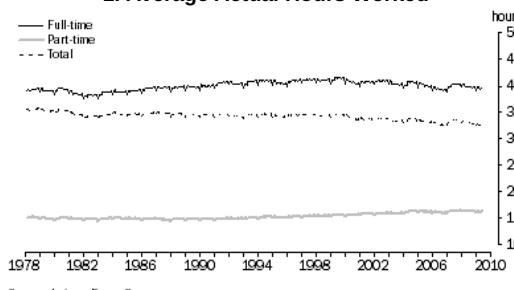
HOURS WORKED MEASURES

There are three measures of hours worked produced from the Labour Force Survey: actual hours worked; usual hours worked; and aggregate monthly hours worked. See the Glossary for definitions of these three measures. For more detail on these measures, as well as on full-time and part-time employment, please refer to the "Employment Measures and Classifications" chapter in **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001). This article uses estimates of actual hours worked.

AVERAGE ACTUAL HOURS WORKED

Average actual hours worked per week in all jobs have generally decreased over the past 32 years, from approximately 35.5 hours in early-1978 to approximately 33 hours in 2010. Hours worked peaked in 1979, which roughly coincided with full-time employment peaking at around 86% of employed people (which occurred in January 1979). From this high, average actual weekly hours worked fell during the early-1980s economic downturn, driven by a sharp fall in the hours worked of full-time employed persons. Since then, hours worked have, in general, decreased: from 1984 to 2000, average actual weekly hours worked per employed person remained between 34 and 35 hours. Average actual weekly hours worked then trended down after 2000, falling below 34 hours. A rapid increase in hours worked occurred between mid- and end-2007, just before the economic downturn of 2008-09. Since the economic downturn there have been further falls in average hours.

1. Average Actual Hours Worked



Source: Labour Force Survey.

Full-time and Part-time Status and Sex

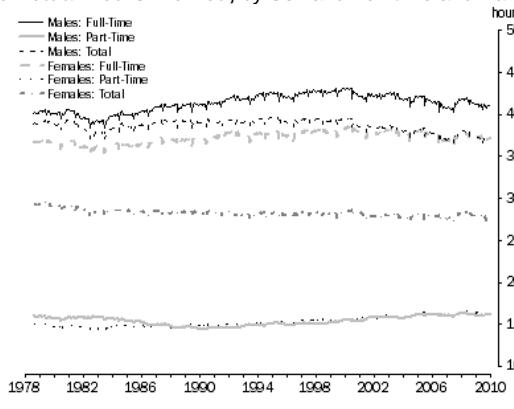
While average actual hours worked for all employed people have generally decreased, average actual hours worked for both full-time and part-time employed people have generally increased over the past 32 years. However, since 2000, average actual hours worked per full-time employed person have been falling.

Average actual weekly hours worked per full-time employed person generally rose following the early-1980s economic downturn, and reached a peak of approximately 41.5 hours in 2000. From there, average hours worked per full-time person decreased, until an increase in 2007 (driving the increase in average hours worked for all employed persons). Since 2008, average full-time hours have decreased again.

Average hours worked for part-time employed people have demonstrated a relatively steady, albeit small increase, from around 15 hours in August 1978 to approximately 16 hours in January 2010. The average hours of part-time employed people exhibited a steady increase between 1990 and 2005, fell slightly between 2005 and 2007, then rose to the beginning of 2008, before falling again during the economic downturn of 2008-09. Additionally, compared to hours worked for full-time employed people, average actual hours worked per part-time employed person have recovered more rapidly following (recent) economic downturns.

The trends in average actual hours worked are markedly different for men and women, and this is largely driven by differences in full-time and part-time employment. From February 1978 to July 2010, the percentage of employed men who worked part-time rose from 5% to 17%, compared with a rise from 33% to 46% for women. The average actual hours worked of all employed men (both full-time and part-time) are similar to the average actual hours worked of full-time employed women, especially over the last ten years, largely due to the relatively small proportion of men working part-time.

2. Average Actual Hours Worked, by Sex and Full-time and Part-time status



Source: Labour Force Survey.

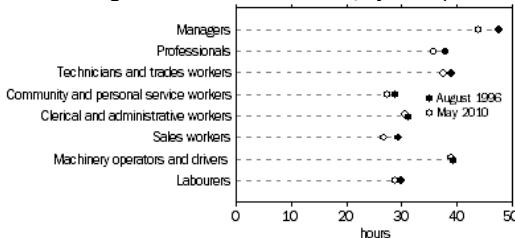
Full-time employed men have, over the past 32 years, worked higher hours than full-time employed women. In July 2010, full-time men worked 41.0 hours compared with 35.8 hours for full-time women. On average between February 1978 and July 2010, full-time men worked 4.1 hours more than full-time women. In April 1999, the difference was at its greatest (5.9 hours), and the smallest difference occurred in January 1983, when full-time men worked an average of just 1.4 hours more than full-time women.

While there is a large difference in the average hours worked by full-time men and women, since February 1978, the average hours worked for part-time workers have been quite similar for both men and women. The difference was at its greatest in January 1984, when part-time men worked 2.4 more hours than part-time women, and has since converged such that since approximately 1990, part-time men and part-time women work almost the same hours.

Occupation

Of all occupation major groups, Managers had the highest average actual hours (as seen in graph 3), however, their average actual hours worked have also exhibited the largest overall decrease in hours, from 47.6 hours in August 1996 to 43.3 hours in August 2010.

3. Average Actual Hours Worked, by Occupation



Source: Labour Force Survey.

While average actual hours worked by all persons have decreased from around 34.5 hours (in August 1996) to around 32.5 hours (in January 2010), a decrease of almost 6%, this fall was not uniform across occupation groups. For example, average actual hours worked fell by only 2% for Machinery operators and drivers and Clerical and administrative workers.

Sales workers had the lowest average actual hours worked in August 2010 (26.8 hours), down from 29.4 hours in August 1996 (a decrease of 9%). The relatively low average hours of Sales workers can partly be explained by the high concentration of part-time work amongst Sales workers (55% in August 2010).

Employment Type: Employees and Owner Managers

Estimates from the Forms of Employment Survey (FOES), collected in November each year, allow analysis of average actual hours worked by the nature of a person's employment relationship or contract, or employment type. Information on the 'Employment type' classification can be found in the Employment Measures and Classifications chapter in Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

As shown in table 4, people who own and work in their own business (which comprises Owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIEs) and Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises (OMUEs)) work considerably longer hours than do employees (excluding OMIEs). In November 2009, the average hours worked by employees (excluding OMIEs) was 33.0 hours, compared with 39.2 hours for Owner managers (43.0 hours for OMIEs and 37.2 hours for OMUEs).

The high average actual hours worked for all Owner managers is largely driven by full-time Owner managers, with an average of 48.5 hours per week (OMIEs at 50.1 hours, and OMUEs at 47.5 hours), while full-time employees (excluding OMIEs) worked an average of 39.6 hours. In contrast, part-time Owner managers worked fewer hours, on average, than part-time employees (excluding OMIEs), at 15.5 hours and 17.1 hours respectively.

4. Average Actual Hours Worked, by Employment type and Full-time and Part-time status - November 2009

Employees (excluding OMIEs)	Owner Managers				Total
	Owner managers of incorporated enterprises	Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises	Owner managers of All owner enterprises	hours	
	hours	hours	hours	hours	hours
Full-time	39.6	50.1	47.5	48.5	41.3
Part-time	17.1	16.9	15.0	15.5	16.8
Total	33.0	43.0	37.2	39.2	34.1

Source: Forms of Employment Survey.

Whether Usually Work the Same Number of Hours Each Week

While this article examines trends in the number of hours worked, it is also interesting to analyse those workers whose hours vary from week to week. Table 5 (using data from FOES) shows, for different occupations, the percentage of people who usually work the same number of hours each week.

5. Whether Usually Works the Same Number of Hours Each Week, by Occupation - November 2009

	Usually works the same number of hours	Does not usually work the same number of hours
	%	%
Managers	73.5	26.5
Professionals	76.1	23.9
Technicians and trades workers	71.3	28.7
Community and personal service workers	67.5	32.5

Clerical and administrative workers	83.2	16.8
Sales workers	69.2	30.8
Machinery operators and drivers	69.8	30.2
Labourers	68.2	31.8
Total	73.4	26.6

Source: Forms of Employment Survey.

Occupations such as Community and personal service workers, Labourers, and Sales workers have the highest proportion (around one third) of people who do not usually work the same number of hours each week. Workers in these three occupations also had the lowest average hours (in November 2009 of 27.1, 28.8 and 26.4 hours respectively).

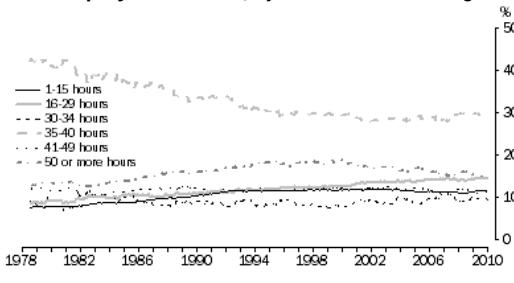
For those occupations with a high percentage of people usually working the same number of hours each week, the converse (ie. that they work a larger than average number of hours) does, in general, not hold. Clerical and administrative workers have the highest percentage of people usually working the same number of hours per week (83%), yet their hours worked are moderate (at an average of 30.0 hours in November 2009).

DISTRIBUTION OF HOURS WORKED

Trends in average actual hours worked for employed people are not only influenced by the relative contribution of full-time and part-time employment, but also by changes in the distribution of hours worked over time. Several trends are evident: a growing percentage contribution of persons working either longer or shorter hours; and a declining proportion of persons working 'traditional full-time hours' (ie 35-40 hours).

Graph 6 below shows the percentage of persons in the different hours worked ranges, and how this has changed over the past 32 years. While the largest proportion of people have average actual hours worked between 35 and 40 hours, this proportion has declined significantly over the past 32 years (from around 43% in 1978 to around 30% in 2010), with a low of around 28% between 2001 and mid-2007. More recently, however, the proportion working 35-40 hours has remained relatively steady, with an average between January 2000 and July 2010 of 29%.

6. Employed Persons, by Hours Worked Ranges



Source: Labour Force Survey.

In the part-time (ie. 1-34) hours ranges, the proportion of people working 1-15 or 16-29 hours has increased (from around 8% to around 12%, and around 9% to almost 15% respectively), while the proportion working 30-34 hours has fluctuated between approximately 8% to 12% over this period.

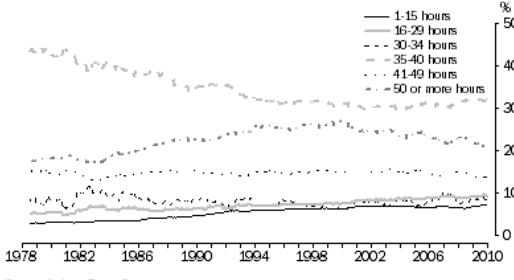
While the proportion working 41-49 hours has remained relatively stable around 10% to 13% over the past 32 years, the proportion working over 50 hours increased from 13% in 1978 to 19% in late 1999 and early 2000, before falling to around 15% in 2010.

Gender

Although the highest proportions of both men and women are working 35-40 hours, as seen in graphs 7 and 8, the proportions have decreased over the past 32 years.

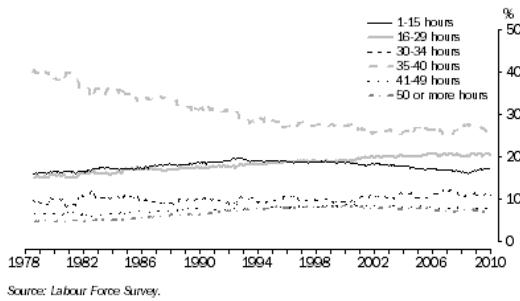
In 1978, the proportion of employed people working these hours was around 43% for men and approximately 40% for women. This has now fallen to approximately 32% for men and 27% for women. For both men and women, there was a decline until 2007, then a slight increase during the most recent economic downturn.

7. Employed Males, by Hours Worked Ranges



Source: Labour Force Survey.

8. Employed Females, by Hours Worked Ranges



Across the other hours worked ranges, men are more highly concentrated in the higher full-time hours worked ranges (41-49 and 50 hours or more), while women are more highly concentrated in 1-15 and 16-29 hours worked ranges. Over time however, the percentage of men working part-time hours has grown, and the proportion of women working full-time hours has also increased.

People "On The Cusp" Of Full-time Employment

It should be noted that while the threshold for full-time employment is 35 hours, many people who are defined as full-time can record actual hours worked in the reference week of less than 35 hours. Full-time employed people are those who usually work 35 hours or more per week in all jobs (regardless of how many hours they worked in the reference week), or, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, actually worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

As a result, people who work these "on the cusp" (of full-time) hours are comprised of two groups: the part-time employed (ie. those who usually work less than 35 hours per week, and did so in the reference week); and full-time employed people who worked between 30 and 34 hours in the reference week.

In May 2010, just over half of those who worked between 30 and 34 hours in the reference week were full-time employed people, a marked fall from the 75% recorded in 1978, highlighting the large increase in the proportion of part-time employed people working 30-34 hours. In 1978, approximately 15% of part-time employed people worked 30-34 hours. By July 2010 this had increased to just under 30%.

This growing percentage of part-time employed people who are "on the cusp" of full-time employment largely accounts for the increase in average actual hours worked per part-time employed person since 1978.

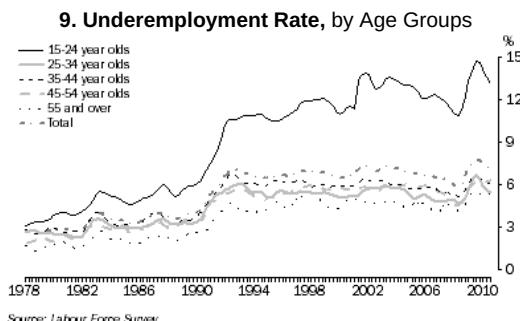
People Working Fewer Hours

The proportion of employed people working 1-15 hours has increased 3.4 percentage points from 7.5% in February 1978 to 10.9% in July 2010. This has largely been driven by increasing proportions of both younger and older workers working 1-15 hours (up from 8% to 24% for those aged 15-24, and 8% to 13% for those aged 55 years or over).

The highest proportion of persons working 1-15 hours are those aged 15-24 years, and this age group has become over-represented amongst people working 1-15 hours. For example, while people aged 15-24 comprised 26% of all employed people and 27% of those working 1-15 hours in 1978, in 2010 they comprised 17% of all employed people and 33% of those working 1-15 hours. For people working 1-15 hours, the proportion aged 55 years or over has increased from 13% in February 1978 to almost 20% in July 2010.

For men working 1-15 hours per week, those aged 15-24 comprised the the largest share, with on average, more than 45%, with a peak of around 59% in May 1990. The distribution of the other employed men working 1-15 hours is spread relatively evenly across the other age groups, and has been relatively constant over the past 32 years (although there was an increase in the share of those aged 55 and over in the last ten years: from around 16% in 2000 to approximately 23% in 2010). Unlike men, for women there is no one particular age group which overwhelmingly contributes to those working 1-15 hours. The largest group are those aged 15-24, which has increased from 23% in February 1978 to 29% in July 2010. The proportion of employed women 55 and over working 1-15 hours per week has shown a similar pattern to men in the same age group, increasing steadily since 1995, from around 9% to approximately 17%.

In conjunction with the the high proportion of young (15-24) people who work few hours, young people are also over-represented among the underemployed (see Glossary for definitions of underemployed workers and the underemployment rate). Furthermore, this over-representation has increased over the last 20 years. Over the past 32 years, the underemployment rate in the 15-24 year old age group rose 10.0 percentage points from 3.1% in February 1978 to 13.1% in July 2010.



Since the economic downturn of the early-1990s, the underemployment rate for people aged 15-24 has been considerably higher than in all the other age groups.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For more information on the estimates, analysis and methodology used in this article, please contact Matt Dillon on (02) 6252 5183 or email Matt.Dillon@abs.gov.au.

END NOTE

The average actual hours worked estimates are original terms, and are not available as seasonally adjusted or trend estimates. ABS investigations have determined that actual hours worked are not suitable to be seasonally adjusted or trended, and instead that aggregate monthly hours worked provides the most accurate seasonally adjusted measure of hours worked. For further information, please refer to **Information Paper: Expansion of Hours Worked Estimates from the Labour Force Survey** (cat. no. 6290.0.55.001).

As average actual hours worked original estimates are strongly influenced by seasonality, they are limited in their usefulness in monitoring movements. However, for the purpose of exploring long-term trends in actual hours worked in this article, indicative estimates are produced by applying a 13-point symmetric moving average to monthly original estimates. This procedure is not equivalent to an ABS time series analysis of seasonally adjusted or trend estimates. These indicative estimates can only be produced for original estimates more than six data points from the series ends. Graphs plot these indicative estimates, and thus have a range of August 1978 to January 2010. Estimates quoted in the article are both indicative estimates (qualified by the terms "approximately", "about" and "around") and original estimates.

Underemployment estimates are given as trend.

Shift Workers (Feature Article)

SHIFT WORKERS

INTRODUCTION

Shift work serves multiple purposes within the Australian labour market. It allows employers to maximise production by making full use of 24 hours of each day. Shift work also ensures that many essential services are provided to the community around the clock.

In this article, the term shift workers refers to people who work rotating shifts, irregular shifts, evening shifts, afternoon shifts, morning shifts or split shifts.¹ However, the interpretation of what constitutes shift work can be quite subjective. For example, people can work 'shifts' in the Accommodation and food services industry, such as a lunch or dinner service, whereas in the Mining industry, where operations may not cease, there can be continuous shifts up to 12 hours long. For some people, a 'shift' may merely represent the specific hours they are assigned, while for others it is more closely linked to the business' operations. Shifts can be regular and consistent, or can rotate frequently and people can either have a set schedule or be called in for a shift.

This article uses data from the November 2009 Labour Force Supplementary Survey, **Working Time Arrangements**, where respondents are asked to identify whether they usually work shift work, to highlight the extent of shift work in Australia and to explore the characteristics and working arrangements of shift workers.

OVERVIEW

In November 2009 there were 8.6 million employees² aged 15 years and over in Australia. Of these, 1.4 million usually worked shift work, making up 16% of employees². Over two-thirds (68%) of shift workers worked full-time and over half (55%) were men. This was similar to 2006, where 17% of employees² usually worked shift work, of whom 67% worked full-time and 56% were men.

AGE AND SEX

As shown in Table 1, a higher proportion of men were shift workers than women (17% compared with 15%). The table also highlights the fact that shift work decreases with age; for example, 18% of people aged 15-19 usually worked shift work, whereas only 11% of people aged 65 and over usually worked shift work. This can largely be attributed to the nature of work performed across different age groups. For example, young people are heavily represented in the Accommodation and food services industry (20% of all 15-19 year olds) and this industry also has a high proportion of shift workers (37%). Of all people aged 65 and over, a high proportion (15%) worked in the Education and training industry, which had a very low proportion of shift workers (2%).

1. Usually worked shift work, Proportion within each age group, by Sex - November 2009

	Males '000	%	Females '000	%	Persons '000	%
15 to 19	35.8	17.1	38.8	18.9	74.6	18.0
20 to 24	103.9	18.7	95.4	17.8	199.4	18.3
25 to 34	199.5	17.6	144.6	15.5	344.1	16.6
35 to 44	184.5	18.2	130.1	14.0	314.7	16.2
45 to 54	145.9	16.5	132.1	13.7	277.9	15.0
55 to 59	59.4	18.1	43.0	12.8	102.5	15.4
60 to 64	26.9	12.9	24.8	13.5	51.7	13.2
65 and over	*4.8	6.1	10.0	16.7	14.8	10.7
Total	760.7	17.2	618.9	14.9	1 379.6	16.1

* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution
Source: ABS Survey of Working Time Arrangements.

OCCUPATION

As shown in graph 2, there are notable differences in the proportion of men and women who usually work shift work in a number of the

occupation categories. The broad occupation group Community and personal service workers had the highest proportion of female shift workers (29%), and of these, 40% worked as Carers and aides. The same occupation group also had the highest proportion of male shift workers (54%), but in contrast to women, the most common specific occupation of male shift workers in this broad occupation group were Protective service workers (46%). Although there was a high proportion of shift workers, this broad occupation group only represented 11% of the total workforce. While the Professionals occupation group had a relatively low proportion of shift work (12%), because of the relative size of this occupation group, it had a high number of shift workers (16% of all shift workers). However, among Professionals who are shiftworkers, the Health professionals group comprised 75%.

In the occupation category Machinery operators and drivers, 29% of employees² were shift workers, and of these 95% were men. As with Community and personal services workers, Machinery operators and drivers only made up a relatively small percentage of the total workforce (7% of all employees²), but had a high number of shift workers. In contrast, there were relatively few Managers (9%) and Clerical and administrative workers (6%) who were shift workers.

2. USUALLY WORKED SHIFT WORK, by Occupation - November 2009

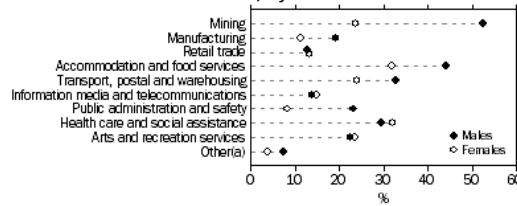


Source: ABS Survey of Working Time Arrangements.

INDUSTRY

The break-down by industry category reveals that the industry with the highest proportion of men who usually worked shift work was Mining (52%), while for women it was Health care and social assistance (32%). While half (49%) of all people (men and women) who worked in the Mining industry were shift workers, the mining industry is relatively small (2% of the total workforce), representing 6% of all shift workers (81,000). The Accommodation and food services industry also had a high proportion of shift workers (37%), of whom 44% were men and of these, 89% worked in Food and beverage services. Health care and social assistance was the industry with the largest number of shift workers (342,900 or 25% of all shift workers), and 45% of these were women.

3. USUALLY WORKED SHIFT WORK, by Selected industries - November 2009



(a) Includes Agriculture, forestry and fishing; Electricity, gas, water and waste services; Construction; Wholesale trade; Retail trade; Financial and insurance services; Rental, hiring and real estate services; Administrative and support services; Education and training and Other services.

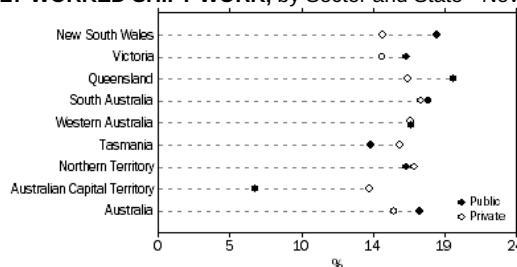
Source: ABS Survey of Working Time Arrangements.

A number of industries had very low proportions of shift workers. These include Financial and insurance services (3%), Professional, scientific and technical services (3%) and Education and training (2%).

SECTOR AND STATE

Of all public sector employees², 18% usually worked shift work compared with 16% of private sector employees². Queensland had the highest proportion of shift workers, and of these, 24% worked in the Public sector. Interestingly, the ACT had a very low proportion of public sector employees² who usually worked shift work compared to the other states. This may reflect the high proportion of federal government employees² in the ACT, as compared to the other states and territories, where there are larger numbers of state and local government employees². For example, 77% of public sector employees in the ACT worked in the Federal Government, compared with the other states and territories where less than 13% of public sector employees worked in the Federal Government (Survey of Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002).

4. USUALLY WORKED SHIFT WORK, by Sector and State - November 2009

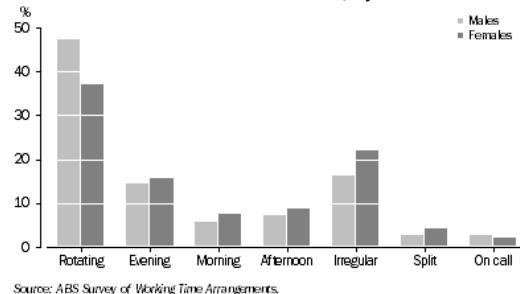


Source: ABS Survey of Working Time Arrangements.

WORKING PATTERNS

As graph 5 shows, rotating shifts were the most common form of shift work for both men and women (48% and 37% respectively), followed by irregular shifts (16% and 22%) and evening shifts (15% and 16%).

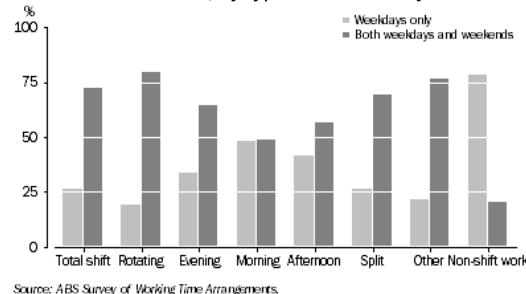
5. TYPE OF SHIFT USUALLY WORKED, by Sex - November 2009



Source: ABS Survey of Working Time Arrangements.

The days on which shift workers worked varied considerably from those who didn't work shift work, with shift workers more likely to work on both weekdays and weekends. For example, just over a quarter (26%) of shift workers worked weekdays only, whereas a much higher proportion (79%) of non-shift workers worked weekdays only, which reflects the twenty-four hours a day, 7 days a week nature of shift work. Shift workers who worked a rotating shift were most likely to work on both weekdays and weekends (80%) and almost two thirds (65%) of shift workers who worked a regular evening shift usually worked on both weekdays and weekends. Less than half (41%) of shift workers who only worked a regular afternoon shift worked exclusively on weekdays.

6. DAYS OF THE WEEK WORKED, by type of shift usually worked - November 2009



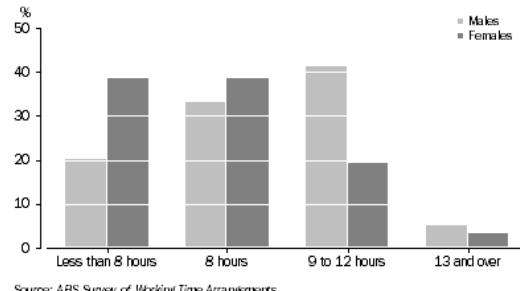
Source: ABS Survey of Working Time Arrangements.

Around a quarter (26%) of shift workers had some say in their start and finish times, whereas 45% of non-shift workers had some say in their start and finish times. This reflects the nature of shift work, as shift workers generally have predetermined shifts and less flexibility in start and finish times.

HOURS WORKED

The hours worked in shifts show some interesting results. Men worked longer shifts than women, on average, with 41% of men working 9 to 12 hours in their most recent shift. In contrast, 77% of women worked 8 hours or less in their most recent shift.

7. HOURS WORKED IN MOST RECENT SHIFT - November 2009



Source: ABS Survey of Working Time Arrangements.

FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about the Working Time Arrangements Survey, see **Working Time Arrangements, Australia, November 2009** (cat. no. 6342.0). This publication is available free of charge on the ABS website www.abs.gov.au.

END NOTES

1. Definitions of these shifts are available in the glossary as well as **Working Time Arrangements, Australia, November 2009** (cat. no. 6342.0).
2. Employees excluding owner managers of incorporated enterprises (OMIEs). While any employed person could work shift work, this article focuses on employees (excluding OMIEs) only.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 Australian Labour Market Statistics brings together a range of ABS labour statistics to present a statistical summary of the Australian labour market. It has been developed primarily as a reference document, and provides a broad basis for labour analysis and research.

2 In addition to data from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), this publication contains statistics from a range of other ABS labour surveys including Average Weekly Earnings, the Labour Price Index, Job Vacancies, Employment and Earnings - Public Sector, and Industrial Disputes.

3 This publication includes international data for selected labour market indicators.

LABOUR STATISTICS CONCEPTS, SOURCES AND METHODS

4 The concepts and definitions underpinning ABS labour statistics align closely with the standards and guidelines set out in Resolutions of the International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Descriptions of the underlying concepts of Australia's labour market statistics, and the sources and methods used in compiling the estimates, are presented in **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001), which is available on the ABS website at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Topics @ a Glance - People - Labour - Labour Releases - **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods**].

5 For an explanation of terms used in this publication, refer to the Glossary.

LABOUR STATISTICS THEME PAGE

6 The Labour Statistics Topics @ a Glance page is a portal to all labour statistics and related information residing on the ABS website. The page contains hyperlinks to **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001); information about labour related surveys; and a help page for respondents to ABS labour related surveys. The Labour Topics @ a Glance Page can be accessed at <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Topics @ a Glance - People - Labour].

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED AND TREND ESTIMATES

7 Series in this publication include **original**, **seasonally adjusted** and **trend** series. Special care should be taken in interpreting data for the most recent months and quarters, as some of the original and all of the seasonally adjusted and trend series are subject to revision.

8 It is not uncommon for movements in original time series data and those provided from seasonally adjusted and trend series to differ. Movements in a time series of original data may reflect several factors, including:

- longer-term changes in the item being measured (i.e. trend movements);
- short-term irregular changes;
- regular seasonal influences;
- normal 'trading', 'working' or 'pay' day patterns; and
- systematic holiday effects.

9 Seasonal adjustment is a means of removing the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation from the series so that the effects of other influences on the series can be more clearly recognised. Seasonal adjustment does not aim to remove the irregular or non-seasonal influences which may be present in any particular month. This means that month-to-month movements of the seasonally adjusted estimates may not be reliable indicators of trend behaviour.

10 The Labour Force Survey uses the concurrent seasonal adjustment method to derive seasonal factors. Concurrent seasonal adjustment uses data up to the current month to estimate seasonal factors for the current and all previous months. This process can result in revisions each month to estimates for earlier periods. However, in most instances, the only noticeable revisions will be to the seasonally adjusted estimates for the previous month and one year prior to the current month.

11 Seasonal adjustment is able to remove the effect of events which occur at the same time in the survey every year. However, there are some events, like holidays, which are not always at the same time in the survey cycle or which are not at the same time across Australia. The effects of these types of events on Labour Force Survey estimates cannot in all cases be removed, because the pattern of their effects cannot be determined. However, two events which are adjusted for in the seasonally adjusted series are the January interview start date and the timing of Easter.

12 Trend estimates help the user to identify the underlying magnitude and direction of a time series. Seasonal adjustment removes the effect of the last three listed influences from the data, leaving only trend and short-term irregular movements. Trend estimates are then obtained by removing the effects of the short-term irregularities, which in some series can be a major contributor to movements in the original data.

13 Trend estimates are produced by smoothing the seasonally adjusted series using a statistical procedure based on Henderson moving averages. At each time point in a series, a trend estimate is calculated using a centred x-term Henderson moving average of the seasonally adjusted series. The moving averages are centred on the point in time at which the trend is being estimated. The number of terms used to calculate the trend varies across surveys. Generally, ABS monthly surveys use a 13-term moving average and quarterly surveys use a 7-term moving average.

14 Estimates for the most recent time points cannot be calculated using the centred average method as there are insufficient data to do so.

Instead, alternative approaches that approximate the smoothing properties of the Henderson moving average are used. This can lead to revision in the trend estimates for the most recent time periods until sufficient data are available to calculate the trend using the centred Henderson moving average. Revisions of trend estimates will also occur with revisions to the original data and re-estimation of seasonal adjustment factors.

15 Seasonal factors are reviewed at least annually for ABS labour series, to take account of additional original data. The results of the latest reviews were used to compile the trend estimates given in this publication. For further information about the most recent reviews of seasonal factors for the labour surveys, see the following publications:

- for labour force see [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0);
- for labour price index see [Labour Price Index, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6345.0); and
- for average weekly earnings see [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0).

16 The general methods used in the ABS for estimating trends are described in [Information Paper: A Guide to Interpreting Time Series - Monitoring Trends](#) (cat. no. 1349.0).

RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

17 Estimates in this publication are subject to two types of error:

- sampling error - errors that occur because the data were obtained from a sample rather than the entire population; and
- non-sampling error - errors that occur at any stage of a survey and can also occur in a census, e.g. incorrect responses to questions, processing errors, frame deficiencies.

18 For more information on these sources of error, and on measures of these types of errors, including standard errors, refer to the main publications associated with each of the data series presented in this publication (see the relevant sections later in these Explanatory Notes). More information on standard errors applying to LFS estimates is contained in [Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, 2005](#) (cat. no. 6298.0). To assist users, a spreadsheet incorporating the revised standard error models using composite estimation is available from [Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube, 2009](#) (cat. no. 6298.055.001).

ROUNDING

19 Estimates have been rounded and discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

LABOUR FORCE SURVEY DATA

Description of the survey

20 Data in tables 1.1-1.7, 2.1-2.10, 3.1-3.3, and 4.1-4.6 are obtained from the Labour Force Survey (LFS), which provides extensive information about the labour market on a monthly basis. The LFS is a component of the Monthly Population Survey (MPS), which includes the LFS and supplementary surveys.

Monthly Population Survey

21 The MPS is a population survey based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (currently about 23,000 houses, flats, etc.), and list samples of discrete Indigenous communities and non-private dwellings (hospitals, hotels, motels, etc.), and covers about 0.24% of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from occupants of selected dwellings by interviewers, with the first interview conducted face-to-face and subsequent interviews over the telephone. Once selected, households are included for eight consecutive months before being replaced.

Labour Force Survey

22 The LFS has been conducted on a monthly basis since February 1978. Prior to that, from 1964 to 1978, a national survey was conducted quarterly. Telephone interviewing was introduced between August 1996 and February 1997. New questionnaires have been introduced periodically, most recently in April 2001.

23 The LFS includes all usual residents of Australia aged 15 and over except:

- members of the permanent defence forces;
- certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments, customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts;
- overseas residents in Australia; and
- members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

24 From July 1993, Jervis Bay Territory has been excluded from the scope of the LFS.

Supplementary surveys

25 The supplementary surveys collect additional data on a different topic each month. Many topics covered are rotated on an annual or less frequent basis, while others are included once only. Results from each supplementary survey topic are released separately. A list of topics covered in recent years is in Appendix 3.

26 The supplementary surveys include a subset of the persons included in the LFS (see paragraph 21). The additional exclusions for most supplementary surveys are:

- persons living in Indigenous communities in very remote parts of Australia;

- institutionalised persons; and
- boarding school pupils.

Multi-Purpose Household Survey

27 The Multi-Purpose Household Survey (MPHS) was introduced in 2004-05. This survey vehicle is designed to provide statistics annually for a number of small, self contained topics, including a number of labour related topics. Data for MPHS topics are collected each month over a financial year. A list of topics covered in recent years is in Appendix 3.

28 In addition to those already excluded from the LFS, the following people are excluded from most MPHS topics:

- people under 15 years;
- people living in private dwellings in very remote parts of Australia;
- people living in non-private dwellings such as hotels, university residences, students at boarding schools, patients in hospitals, residents of homes (e.g. retirement homes, homes for people with disabilities) and inmates of prisons; and
- visitors to private dwellings.

29 Depending on the topic, there may be further exclusions from scope. For example, some MPHS topics collect information only from a certain population or interest group (e.g. information on retirement and retirement intentions is collected from people aged 45 years or over).

Reference period

30 Interviews are generally conducted during the two weeks beginning on the Monday between the 6th and 12th of each month, with questions relating to the week prior to the interview (the reference week).

Notes on data

31 From time to time, changes to survey methodology affect the time series produced. Some examples of changes to this survey are: new questions added to the LFS questionnaire in April 2001; and the introduction of telephone interviewing in 1996-97.

32 In February 2004 the definition of unemployed persons was changed to include all persons who were waiting to start work and were available to start in the reference week, with consequent revisions to data from April 2001 to January 2004. For further details, see **Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2003** (cat. no. 6292.0).

33 In May 2007, an improved method of estimation, known as composite estimation, was introduced into the Labour Force Survey. In introducing this change the ABS revised unit record data from April 2001 to April 2007 based on the new estimation method. While estimates for periods prior to April 2001 are unrevised and were compiled using a different estimation method, no trend break was identified in the employed persons series. Also, no change was identified in the trend breaks in the unemployed persons and unemployment rate series which arose with the introduction of a redesigned survey form in April 2001. For further details, see **Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007** (cat. no. 6292.0).

34 The sample size of the Labour Force Survey for July 2008 was reduced by 24% when compared with the June 2008 sample. Detailed information about the sample reduction is provided in **Information Paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 (Second edition)** (cat. no. 6269.0), which was released on 25 July 2008.

35 The Labour Force Survey sample has been re-instated. The sample re-instatement was phased in between September 2009 and December 2009, with the December 2009 estimates in **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0) being the first produced under the fully reinstated sample. Details of the sample re-instatement are provided in **Information paper: Labour Force Survey Sample Design, Nov 2007 (Third Edition)** (cat. no. 6269.0) which was released on 1 October 2009.

Population benchmarks

36 Labour Force Survey estimates are calculated in such a way as to add up to independent estimates of the civilian population aged 15 years and over (population benchmarks). These population benchmarks are projections of the most recently released quarterly Estimated Resident Population (ERP) data. For information on the methodology used to produce the ERP see **Australian Demographic Statistics** (cat. no. 3101.0). To create the population benchmarks for the Labour Force Survey, the most recently released quarterly ERP estimates are projected forward one quarter past the period for which they are required. The projection is based on the historical pattern of each population component - births, deaths, interstate migration and net overseas migration (NOM). By projecting one quarter past that needed for the current population benchmarks, demographic changes are smoothed, thereby making them less noticeable in the population benchmarks.

37 Commencing March 2010, the ERP series is revised twice-yearly in the March and September quarter issues of **Australian Demographic Statistics** (cat. no. 3101.0). This new biannual revision cycle incorporates more up to date information available for NOM estimates. The revised ERP estimates are used to update the quarterly population projections used in creating the Labour Force Survey population benchmarks.

38 In addition, every five years the ERP series are revised to incorporate additional information available from the latest Census of Population and Housing (Census). Following the incorporation of Census information, the ERP series prior to the latest Census are final and subject to no further revision. Labour Force Survey population benchmarks, and the estimates, are revised following this 5-yearly revision in the ERP. From the February 2009 issue of **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0), labour force estimates have been compiled using population benchmarks based on the results of the 2006 Census. Revisions were made in that issue to historical labour force estimates from June 2001 to January 2009.

39 While ABS ERP series are now revised on a six monthly basis, the Labour Force Survey population benchmarks have usually only been revised once every 5 years. Over time, it is possible that the time series of ERP and Labour Force Survey benchmarks may not be aligned in terms of level and change due to the differing revision cycles. However, in the July 2010 issue of **Labour Force, Australia** (cat. no. 6202.0), the LFS population benchmarks were revised back to July 2006 to accommodate earlier revisions to ERP.

Estimation method

40 The estimation method used in the Labour Force Survey is composite estimation, which was introduced in May 2007. Composite estimation combines data collected in the previous six months with current month's data to produce the current month's estimates, thereby exploiting the high correlation between overlapping samples across months in the Labour Force Survey. The Composite Estimator combines the previous and current months' data by applying different factors according to length of time in the survey. After these factors are applied, the seven months of data are weighted to align with current month population benchmarks. For details see [Information Paper: Forthcoming Changes to Labour Force Statistics, 2007](#) (cat. no. 6292.0).

Families series

41 The families estimates use family relationship information collected as part of the LFS. The survey questions used to determine family relationships are restricted to persons enumerated as usual residents of private dwellings. That is, the following persons are excluded from the family estimates:

- all persons enumerated in non-private dwellings (including hotels, motels, hospitals and other institutions); and
- persons enumerated as visitors to (rather than usual residents of) private dwellings.

42 Family relationship information is determined for persons enumerated as usual residents of private dwellings that are in scope of LFS. This information is also determined for some additional persons who are enumerated as usual residents of private dwellings and are:

- aged less than 15 years;
- out of scope of the LFS (i.e. persons who are permanent members of the Australian defence forces);
- away from their usual residence for more than six weeks; and
- for whom there was not a fully completed LFS questionnaire (but sufficient family relationship information was collected).

Further information and data on the LFS

43 LFS estimates are published monthly in [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0). A series of time series spreadsheets are released at the same time as this publication under cat. no. 6202.0.55.001. More detailed estimates are released, in electronic format, one week later, under cat. no. 6291.0.55.001 for monthly data, or cat. no. 6291.0.55.003 for quarterly data. All electronic data can be accessed via the ABS website at <https://www.abs.gov.au>. Additional data are available on request.

44 For further information about the range of LFS products and services, and the concepts and methodology used in the LFS, refer to [Information Paper: Changes to Labour Force Survey Products](#) (cat. no. 6297.0), [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001) and [Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide, Dec 2009](#) (cat. no. 6103.0).

INTERNATIONAL DATA

45 Table 1.8 contains data from the International Labour Organisation.

46 Estimates of key indicators of the labour markets from selected countries have been included for comparison with Australian estimates of labour force participation, employment, unemployment and unemployment rates.

EMPLOYER SURVEY DATA

47 Tables 2.11-2.12, 5.1-5.3, 6.1-6.2 and 7.1 of this publication contain data from ABS employer surveys.

Scope of employer surveys

48 Except where otherwise noted, the sample for ABS labour employer surveys is selected from the ABS Business Register, which is primarily based on registrations to the Australian Taxation Office's (ATO) Pay As You Go Withholding scheme. The population is updated quarterly to take account of new businesses, businesses that have ceased employing, changes in employment levels, changes in industry, and other general business changes. Businesses excluded from the scope of the employer surveys are:

- those primarily engaged in Agriculture, forestry and fishing (except for the Survey of Employment and Earnings);
- private households employing staff;
- overseas embassies, consulates, etc.; and
- those located outside Australia.

PUBLIC SECTOR EMPLOYEES DATA

Description of the survey

49 Tables 2.11 and 2.12 contain employment data from the Survey of Employment and Earnings - Public Sector (SEE).

50 The Survey of Employment and Earnings was conducted on a quarterly basis from the September quarter 1983. The June quarter 2007 issue of the publication [Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001) was the final issue. The quarterly survey has been replaced with an annual survey commencing with the 2007-08 reference year with data available in the publication [Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002). The survey measures both the number of public sector wage and salary earners employed at the last pay period of the financial year and the total earnings paid to employees for the financial year.

Reference period

51 The reference period for employment is the last pay period of the financial year.

Notes on data

52 The private sector component of the Survey of Employment and Earnings was discontinued after the December quarter 2001.

53 The privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 significantly impacted the public sector employment series. Telstra Corporation was effectively privatised on 20 November 2006. For the purpose of ABS statistics this change from public sector to private sector is effective from March quarter 2007. For more information please see [Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007](#) (cat. no. 8102.0).

54 As a result of privatisation, Telstra Corporation was no longer in the scope of SEE, and Telstra data were excluded from the series from March quarter 2007. As a result, a trend break was applied to the Commonwealth government and total public sector employees series between November 2006 and February 2007.

Further information

55 For further information about data relating to public sector employees, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to [Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002), and [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

WAGE PRICE INDEX DATA

56 Table 5.1 contains data from the [Labour Price Index, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6345.0) publication.

Description of the survey

57 The Labour Price Index (LPI) measures change in the price of labour in the Australian labour market, unaffected by changes in the quality or quantity of work performed, i.e. it is unaffected by changes in the composition of the labour force, hours worked, or changes in characteristics of employees (e.g. work performance). In the LPI, index numbers are compiled for a range of wage and non-wage costs. Information about the wage price indexes has been released for each quarter since September 1997. Approximately 20,000 matched jobs from 4,800 businesses are priced each quarter.

Reference period

58 The reference period for the survey is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the mid-month of the quarter.

Further information

59 For further information about the range of products and services relating to the Wage Price Index, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to [Labour Price Index, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6345.0), the associated time series spreadsheets available from the ABS website and [Labour Price Index, Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6351.0.55.001).

AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS DATA

60 Table 5.2 contains data from the Survey of Average Weekly Earnings (AWE).

Description of the survey

61 The Survey of Average Weekly Earnings has been conducted quarterly since August 1981. Approximately 5,500 businesses contribute to the survey each quarter. The purpose of the survey is to measure average gross weekly earnings of employee jobs in Australia.

62 Average weekly earnings statistics represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of numbers of employees. Changes in the averages may be affected not only by changes in the level of earnings of employees but also by changes in the overall composition of the wage and salary earner segment of the labour force.

Reference period

63 The reference period for the survey is the last pay period ending on or before the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter. For non-weekly payrolls, businesses are asked to provide one week's portion.

Notes on data

64 The privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 has significantly impacted on the private sector and public sector average weekly earnings series. Telstra Corporation was effectively privatised on 20 November 2006. For the purposes of ABS statistics this change from public sector to private sector is effective from March quarter 2007. The effect of this change is significant for both the private sector and public sector series. As a result, a trend break has been applied to both series between November 2006 and February 2007. For more information please see [Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007](#) (cat. no. 8102.0).

Further information

65 For further information about average weekly earnings statistics and the concepts and methodology used refer to [Average Weekly Earnings, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6302.0), and [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

NATIONAL ACCOUNTS DATA

66 Table 5.3 contains data from the Australian National Accounts.

67 Estimates of compensation of employees are contained within the Income Accounts of the Australian National Accounts, which are published in [Australian System of National Accounts](#) (cat. no. 5204.0) and [Australian Economic Indicators](#) (cat. no. 1350.0). For further information on how estimates are obtained, see [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0).

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES DATA

68 Tables 6.1 and 6.2 contain data from the Industrial Disputes collection.

Description of the survey

69 The ABS has been collecting information about industrial disputes since 1913. The Industrial Disputes collection produces estimates of the number of industrial disputes (where ten or more working days are lost), employees involved, and working days lost.

70 The scope of the Industrial Disputes collection is restricted to employing businesses at which an industrial dispute has occurred. These are identified through a range of sources, including media reports, listings obtained from industrial relations commissions and contact with government organisations, businesses, employer associations and trade unions. For this collection, industrial disputes are defined as work stoppages of ten working days or more. Ten working days are equivalent to the amount of ordinary time worked by ten people in one day, regardless of the length of the stoppage, e.g. 3,000 workers on strike for two hours would be counted as 750 working days lost (assuming they work an eight-hour day).

71 Effects on other establishments not directly involved in the dispute, such as stand-downs because of lack of materials, disruption of transport services, power cuts, etc. are not included in the scope of this collection.

Reference period

72 The collection reference period is the calendar quarter.

Further information

73 For further information about industrial disputes statistics, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to the electronic publication [Industrial Disputes, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6321.0.55.001), and [Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

JOB VACANCIES DATA

74 Table 7.1 contains data from the Job Vacancies Survey (JVS).

Description of the survey

75 The Job Vacancies Survey has been conducted since November 1983 and is a quarterly sample survey of approximately 5,000 employers. The survey produces estimates of the number of job vacancies in Australia. The Job Vacancies Survey was not conducted during 2008-09 but was reinstated in November 2009.

Reference date

76 The reference date for the survey is the third Friday of the middle month of the quarter.

Notes on data

77 Prior to the August quarter 1999, job vacancies statistics were collected as part of the Job Vacancies and Overtime Survey. The overtime component of the survey ceased following the May quarter 1999.

78 The privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 impacted the private sector and public sector job vacancies series. For the purposes of ABS statistics this change from public sector to private sector was effective from March quarter 2007. For more information please see [Information Paper: Future Treatment of Telstra in ABS Statistics, 2007](#) (cat. no. 8102.0).

79 Although the privatisation of Telstra Corporation in November 2006 impacted on both the private and public sector series, the effect was significant only for the public sector series. As a result, a trend break was applied to the public sector series between November 2006 and February 2007.

80 As a result of JVS being suspended for 2008-09, there will be a gap in all series: original, seasonally adjusted and trend, for five quarters between August 2008 and August 2009 inclusive. The ABS cannot produce reliable estimates by collecting this missing data retrospectively, and has not been able to fill the gap with other data sources and modeling techniques.

81 For further information on the changes to Job Vacancies Survey, refer to the [Information Paper, Reinstatement of Job Vacancies](#)

Further information

82 For further information about the range of products and services relating to ABS job vacancies statistics, and the concepts and methodology used, refer to **Job Vacancies, Australia** (cat. no. 6354.0), **the associated time series spreadsheets available from the ABS website** and **Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods** (cat. no. 6102.0.55.001).

Glossary

GLOSSARY

Active steps to find work

Includes writing, telephoning or applying in person to an employer for work; answering an advertisement for a job; checking factory noticeboards or the touchscreens at Centrelink offices; being registered with Centrelink as a jobseeker; checking or registering with any other employment agency; advertising or tendering for work; and contacting friends or relatives.

Actual hours worked

The hours actually worked during the reference week, not necessarily hours paid for.

Adult employees

Adult employees are those employees 21 years of age or over and those employees who, although under 21 years of age, are paid at the full adult rate for their occupation.

Aggregate monthly hours worked

Aggregate monthly hours worked measures the total number of actual hours worked by employed persons in a calendar month. It differs from the actual hours worked estimates (and the usual hours worked estimates) since these refer only to the hours worked in the reference week.

Actual and usual hours worked cannot be aggregated across time to produce either quarterly or annual estimates as they relate to only a single week in the month. In contrast, aggregate monthly hours worked estimates are a true monthly measure, and may be aggregated across time to produce both quarterly and annual estimates.

Average weekly hours worked

The total number of hours a group of employed persons has actually worked during the reference week, not necessarily hours paid for.

Attending full-time education

Persons aged 15-24 years who were enrolled full-time at secondary school, high school, Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other educational institution in the reference week.

Average compensation per employee

National Accounts. The total compensation of employees divided by the number of employees.

Average earnings (National Accounts basis)

See **average compensation per employee**.

Average hours worked

Aggregate hours worked by a group divided by the number of persons in that group.

Average weekly earnings

Average weekly earnings represent average gross (before tax) earnings of employees and do not relate to average award rates nor to the earnings of the 'average person'. Estimates of average weekly earnings are derived by dividing estimates of weekly total earnings by estimates of number of employees. For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 48 of the Explanatory Notes.

Civilian population aged 15 years and over

All usual residents of Australia aged 15 years and over except members of the permanent defence forces, certain diplomatic personnel of overseas governments customarily excluded from census and estimated population counts, overseas residents in Australia, and members of non-Australian defence forces (and their dependants) stationed in Australia.

Commonwealth government employees

Employees of all departments, agencies and authorities created by or reporting to the Commonwealth Parliament. Those bodies run jointly by the Commonwealth Government and state governments are classified to Commonwealth.

Compensation of employees

National Accounts. The total remuneration, in cash or in kind, payable by enterprises to employees in return for work done by the employees during the accounting period. Compensation of employees comprises wages and salaries (in cash and in kind) and **employers' social contributions**. Compensation of employees is not payable in respect of unpaid work undertaken voluntarily, including the work done by members of a household within an unincorporated enterprise owned by the same household. Compensation of employees excludes any taxes payable by the employer on the wage and salary bill (e.g. payroll tax, fringe benefits tax). See [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Contributing family worker

A person who works without pay, in an economic enterprise operated by a relative.

Country of birth

Classified according to the [Standard Australian Classification of Countries \(SACC\)](#) (cat. no. 1269.0).

Couple families

A family based on two persons who are in a registered or de facto marriage and who are usually resident in the same household.

Dependants

All family members under 15 years, and all children aged 15-24 years attending full-time education (except those who have a partner or child of their own usually resident in the household).

Dependent child

Any child in a family under 15 years of age or aged 15-24 years who is attending full-time education (except those who have a partner or child of their own usually resident in the household).

Dependent student

A child who is 15-24 years of age, who is attending full-time education, and who has no partner or child of his or her own usually resident in the same household.

Discouraged jobseekers

Persons with marginal attachment to the labour force who wanted to work and were available to start work within the next four weeks but whose main reason for not actively looking for work was that they believed they would not find a job for any of the following reasons:

- considered to be too young by employers;
- considered to be too old by employers;
- lacked necessary schooling, training, skills or experience;
- difficulties because of language or ethnic background;
- no jobs in their locality or line of work;
- no jobs available at all; and
- no jobs in suitable hours.

Duration of unemployment

Duration of unemployment is the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked in any job for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

Prior to April 2001, duration of unemployment was defined in the LFS as the period of time from when an unemployed person began looking for work, until the end of the reference week; or the period of time since an unemployed person last worked full-time for two weeks or more, until the end of the reference week; whichever was the shorter period.

Employed

Employed persons include all persons aged 15 years and over who, during the reference week:

- worked for one hour or more for pay, profit, commission or payment in kind in a job or business, or on a farm (comprising employees, employers and own account workers); or
- worked for one hour or more without pay in a family business or on a farm (i.e. contributing family workers); or
- were employees who had a job but were not at work and were:
 - away from work for less than four weeks up to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work for more than four weeks up to the end of the reference week and received pay for some or all of the four week period to the end of the reference week; or
 - away from work as a standard work or shift arrangement; or
 - on strike or locked out; or
 - on workers' compensation and expected to return to their job; or
- were employers or own account workers, who had a job, business or farm, but were not at work.

Employed full-time

See **full-time employed**.

Employed part-time

See **part-time employed**.

Employee

Labour Force Survey and other household surveys. A person who works for a public or private employer and receives remuneration in wages, salary, a retainer fee from their employer while working on a commission basis, tips, piece rates, or payment in kind, or a person who operates their own incorporated enterprise with or without hiring employees.

Employer surveys. Employees are wage and salary earners who received pay for any part of the reference period. For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 48 of the Explanatory Notes.

Employee job

Wage Price Index (WPI). A job for which the occupant receives remuneration in wages, salary, payment in kind, or piece rates. All employee jobs in all employing organisations (except those excluded from all ABS labour employer surveys) are in scope of the WPI, except the following:

- 'non-maintainable' jobs (i.e. jobs that are expected to be occupied for less than six months of a year); and
- jobs for which wages and salaries are not determined by the Australian labour market (e.g. working proprietors of small incorporated enterprises, most employees of Community Development Employment Programs, jobs where the remuneration is set in a foreign country).

For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 48 of the Explanatory Notes.

Employer

Labour Force Survey and other household surveys. A person who operates their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engages independently in a profession or trade, and hires one or more employees.

Employer surveys. A business with one or more employees.

Employers' social contributions

National Accounts. Contributions by employers to pension and superannuation funds; and premiums paid by employers to workers' compensation schemes for occupational injuries and diseases.

Employment to population ratio

For any group, the number of employed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population in the same group.

Extended labour force underutilisation rate

The unemployed, plus the underemployed, plus two groups who are marginally attached to the labour force:

- (i) persons actively looking for work, not available to start work in the reference week, but available to start work within four weeks; and
- (ii) discouraged jobseekers

as a percentage of the labour force augmented by (i) and (ii).

For more information see datacube 'Table 1.1. Extended Labour Force Underutilisation Rate' and the Technical Report 'Extended Labour Force Underutilisation Rate' in the July 2009 issue of this publication.

Family

Two or more persons, one of whom is at least 15 years of age, who are related by blood, marriage (registered or de facto), adoption, step or fostering; and who are usually resident in the same household. The basis of a family is formed by identifying the presence of a couple relationship, lone parent-child relationship or other blood relationship. Some households will, therefore, contain more than one family.

Family reference person

In families which are not couple families or one-parent families, as defined, the family reference person is the eldest person in the household.

Former workers

Unemployed persons who have previously worked for two weeks or more but not in the last two years.

Full-time educational attendance

Persons aged 15-19 who, during the reference week were enrolled full-time at secondary or high schools, and those aged 15-24 who, during the reference week, were enrolled full-time at a Technical and Further Education (TAFE) college, university, or other tertiary educational institution.

Full-time employed

Household surveys. Persons employed full-time are those employed persons who usually worked 35 hours or more a week (in all jobs) and those who, although usually working less than 35 hours a week, worked 35 hours or more during the reference week.

Full-time employees

Employer surveys. Full-time employees are permanent, fixed term or casual employees who normally work the agreed or award hours for a full-time employee in their occupation and received pay for any part of the reference period. If agreed or award hours do not apply,

employees are regarded as full-time if they ordinarily work 35 hours or more per week.

Gross domestic product (GDP)

National Accounts. The total market value of goods and services produced in Australia within a given period after deducting the cost of goods and services used up in the process of production but before deducting allowances for the consumption of fixed capital. Thus gross domestic product, as here defined, is at 'market prices'. It is equivalent to gross national expenditure plus exports of goods and services less imports of goods and services. See [Australian System of National Accounts: Concepts, Sources and Methods](#) (cat. no. 5216.0) for further information.

Household

A group of one or more persons in a private dwelling who consider themselves to be separate from other persons (if any) in the dwelling, and who make regular provision to take meals separately from other persons, i.e. at different times or in different rooms. Lodgers who receive accommodation but no meals are treated as separate households. Boarders who receive both accommodation and meals are not treated as separate households. A household may consist of any number of families and non-family members.

Industrial dispute

An industrial dispute is defined as a state of disagreement over an issue or group of issues between an employer and its employees, which results in employees ceasing work. Industrial disputes comprise strikes, which are a withdrawal from work by a group of employees; and lockouts, which are a refusal by an employer or group of employers to permit some or all of their employees to work.

Industry

An industry is a group of businesses or organisations that perform similar sets of activities in terms of the production of goods and services. Industry is classified according to the [Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification \(ANZSIC\), 2006](#) (cat. no. 1292.0). The industry assigned to an employed person is the industry of the organisation in which the person's main job is located. Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the last two years are classified according to the industry of their most recent job.

Job vacancy

A job vacancy is an employee job available for immediate filling on the survey reference date and for which recruitment action has been taken. Recruitment action includes efforts to fill vacancies by advertising, by factory notices, by notifying public or private employment agencies or trade unions and by contacting, interviewing or selecting applicants already registered with the enterprise or organisation. Excluded are vacancies:

- for jobs which became vacant on the survey date and were filled that same day;
- for jobs of less than one day's duration;
- to be filled by persons already hired, or by promotion or transfer of existing employees;
- to be filled by employees returning from paid or unpaid leave or after industrial dispute(s);
- not available for immediate filling on the survey reference date;
- for work to be carried out by contractors;
- for which no recruitment action has been taken;
- where a person has been appointed but has not yet commenced duty;
- to be filled by staff from contract labour agencies; and
- for jobs available only to persons already employed by the enterprise or organisation.

For information about scope exclusions applying to employer surveys, refer to paragraph 48 of the Explanatory Notes.

Labour force

The labour force is the labour supply available for the production of economic goods and services in a given period, and is the most widely used measure of the economically active population. Persons in the labour force are classified as either employed or unemployed according to their activities during the reference period by using a specific set of priority rules.

Labour force status

A classification of the civilian population aged 15 years and over into employed, unemployed or not in the labour force, as defined. The definitions conform closely to the international standard definitions adopted by the International Conferences of Labour Statisticians.

Labour force underutilisation rate

The unemployed plus the underemployed, as a percentage of the labour force.

Local government employees

Employees of municipalities and shires and other local authorities created by or subject to the provisions of local government legislation, such as county councils in New South Wales.

Lone parent

A person who has no spouse or partner present in the household but who forms a parent-child relationship with at least one dependent or non-dependent child usually resident in the household.

Lone person

A person who makes provision for their food and other essentials for living, without combining with any other person to form part of a multi-person household. They may live in a dwelling on their own or share a dwelling with another individual or family.

Long-term unemployed

Persons unemployed for 12 months or more. See **duration of unemployment** for details of the calculation of duration of unemployment.

Long-term unemployment rate

The number of long-term unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Marginal attachment to the labour force

Persons who were not in the labour force in the reference week, wanted to work, and:

- were actively looking for work but did not meet the availability criteria to be classified as unemployed; or
- were not actively looking for work but were available to start work within four weeks or could start work within four weeks if child care was available.

The criteria for determining those in the labour force are based on activity (i.e. working or looking for work) and availability to start work during the reference week. The criteria associated with marginal attachment to the labour force, in particular the concepts of wanting to work and reasons for not actively looking for work, are more subjective. Hence, the measurement against these criteria is affected by the respondent's own interpretation of the concepts used. An individual respondent's interpretation may be affected by their work aspirations, as well as family, economic and other commitments.

Marital status

See **social marital status**.

Mean age

The sum of the ages of all the persons in a group, divided by the total number of persons in that group.

Mean duration of unemployment

The sum of the duration of unemployment of all the unemployed persons in a group, divided by the total number of unemployed persons in that group.

Median age

The age which divides a group of persons into two equal groups: one comprising persons whose age is above the median; and the other, persons whose age is below it.

Median duration of unemployment

The duration which divides unemployed persons into two equal groups: one comprising persons whose duration of unemployment is above the median; and the other, persons whose duration is below it.

Non-dependent child

A child of a couple or lone parent usually resident in the household, aged over 15 years and who is not a dependent student aged 15-24 years, and who has no partner or child of their own usually resident in the household.

Non-family member

A person who is not related to any other member of the household in which they are living.

Not in the labour force

Persons who were not classified as employed or unemployed.

Occupation

An occupation is a collection of jobs that are sufficiently similar in their main tasks to be grouped together for the purposes of classification. Occupation is classified according to the [ANZSCO Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations, First Edition, 2006](#) (cat. no. 1220.0). The occupation assigned to an employed person relates to the person's main job. Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the last two years are classified according to the occupation of their most recent job.

One-parent family

A family consisting of a lone parent with at least one dependent or non-dependent child (regardless of age) who is also usually resident in the household.

Ordinary time earnings

See **weekly ordinary time earnings**.

Original series

Estimates produced directly from the survey data, before seasonal adjustment or trend estimation takes place.

Other family

Related individuals residing in the same household who do not form a couple or parent-child relationship with any other person in the household and are not attached to a couple or one parent family in the household. If two brothers, for example, are living together and neither is a spouse, a lone parent or a child, then they are classified as 'other family'.

Overtime earnings

See **weekly overtime earnings**.

Own account workers

People who operate their own unincorporated economic enterprise or engaged independently in a profession or trade, and hired no employees.

Owner managers of incorporated enterprises

People who work in their own incorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity which is registered as a separate legal entity to its members or owners (also known as a limited liability company). These people are classified as employees under 'status in employment'. Technically they are employees, however, they are similar in characteristics to owner managers of unincorporated enterprises.

Owner managers of unincorporated enterprises

People who operate their own unincorporated enterprise, that is, a business entity in which the owner and the business are legally inseparable, so that the owner is liable for any business debts that are incurred. Includes those engaged independently in a trade or profession. These people are classified as employers under 'status in employment' if their business has employees, or own account workers if they do not.

Participation rate

The labour force participation rate for any group within the population is the labour force component of that group, expressed as a percentage of the population in that group.

Part-time employed

Household surveys. Persons employed part-time are those employed persons who usually worked less than 35 hours a week (in all jobs) and either did so during the reference week, or were not at work in the reference week.

Reason for leaving last job

Unemployed persons who had worked for two weeks or more in the past two years classified by whether they left that job voluntarily, that is, job leavers; or left that job involuntarily, that is, job losers.

Seasonally adjusted series

A time series of estimates with the estimated effects of normal seasonal variation removed. See paragraphs 7-16 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

Shifts

Irregular shifts - Describes shifts that do not follow a set pattern

Regular shifts - Shifts worked to a set pattern of times. Regular shift times are presented as follows

- morning shifts - between 6.00am to 12.00pm;
- afternoon shifts - between 12.00pm and 5.00pm; and
- evening, night or graveyard shift - between 5.00pm and 6.00am

Rotating shift - A shift arrangement, in which the shift worked changes periodically from one time period to another, for example from mornings or afternoons to evenings or nights.

Split shift - Occurs when the worked period is broken by an extended unpaid 'free' period, thereby constituting an extended working day consisting of two (or more) shifts.

Shift work

A system of working whereby the daily hours of operation at the place of employment are split into at least two set work periods (shifts), for different groups of workers.

Social marital status

Social marital status is the relationship status of an individual with reference to another person who is usually resident in the household. A marriage exists when two people live together as husband and wife, or partners, regardless of whether the marriage is formalised through registration. Individuals are, therefore, regarded as married if they are in a de facto marriage, or if they are living with the person to whom they are registered as married.

State capital cities

The areas determining the six state capital cities are the Statistical Divisions for those capital cities defined in the [Statistical Geography: Volume 1 - Australian Standard Geographical Classification \(ASGC\)](#) (cat. no. 1216.0).

State government employees

Employees of all State government departments and authorities created by, or reporting to, State Parliaments, including organisations for which the Commonwealth has assumed financial responsibility. Following self-government, the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory administrations have been classified to State Governments. Employees of State Governments employed interstate are included in the estimates of the State in which they are based.

Status in employment

Employed persons classified by whether they were employees, employers, own account workers or contributing family workers.

Total earnings

See **weekly total earnings**.

Total hourly rates of pay index excluding bonuses

Wage Price Index. This index measures quarterly change in a weighted combination of ordinary time and overtime hourly rates of pay. See [Labour Price Index, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6345.0) for more information.

Trend series

A smoothed seasonally adjusted series of estimates. See paragraphs 7-16 of the Explanatory Notes for more detail.

Underemployed workers

Underemployed workers are employed persons who want, and are available for, more hours of work than they currently have. They comprise:

- persons employed part-time who want to work more hours and are available to start work with more hours, either in the reference week or in the four weeks subsequent to the survey; and
- persons employed full-time who worked part-time hours in the reference week for economic reasons (such as being stood down or insufficient work being available). It is assumed that these people wanted to work full-time in the reference week and would have been available to do so.

Underemployment rate

The number of underemployed workers expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Unemployed

Persons aged 15 years and over who were not employed during the reference week, and

- had actively looked for full-time or part-time work at any time in the four weeks up to the end of the reference week and were available for work in the reference week; or
- were waiting to start a new job within four weeks from the end of the reference week and could have started in the reference week if the job had been available then.

Unemployed looking for first full-time job

Unemployed persons looking for full-time work who had never worked full-time for two weeks or more.

Unemployed looking for first job

Unemployed persons who had never worked for two weeks or more.

Unemployed looking for full-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for full-time work; or
- were waiting to start a new full-time job.

Unemployed looking for part-time work

Unemployed persons who:

- actively looked for part-time work only; or
- were waiting to start a new part-time job.

Unemployment rate

The number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force.

Unemployment to population ratio

For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

Usual hours worked

The hours usually worked per week by an employed person.

Wage and salary earners

See **employee**.

Weekly ordinary time earnings

Weekly ordinary time earnings refers to one week's earnings of employees for the reference period attributable to award, standard or agreed hours of work, calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation, board and lodging) have been made. Included are piecework payments and one week's portion of regular production and task bonuses and commissions. Excluded are overtime payments and payments not related to the reference period, e.g. bonus payments for earlier periods of work.

Weekly overtime earnings

Weekly overtime earnings refers to payment for hours worked in the reference week in excess of award, standard or agreed hours of work, calculated before taxation and any other deductions (e.g. superannuation) have been made.

Weekly total earnings

Weekly total earnings of employees is equal to weekly ordinary time earnings plus weekly overtime earnings.

Working days lost

Refers to working days lost by employees directly and indirectly involved in the dispute.

Working days lost per thousand employees

Calculated for a quarterly period by dividing the total number of working days lost in the period by the total number of employees in the Australian labour force in the period (obtained from the ABS Labour Force Survey) and multiplying by 1,000.

Abbreviations

ABBREVIATIONS

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ANZSCO	Australian and New Zealand Standard Classification of Occupations
ANZSIC	Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification
ASGC	Australian Standard Geographical Classification
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
AWE	average weekly earnings
EEH	Survey of Employee Earnings and Hours
ERP	estimated resident population
GDP	gross domestic product
ID	industrial disputes
ILO	International Labour Organization
JVS	Job Vacancies Survey
LFS	Labour Force Survey
LPI	labour price index
MPHS	Multipurpose Household Survey
MPS	Monthly Population Survey
qtr	quarter
RSE	relative standard error
SEE	Survey of Employment and Earnings
WPI	wage price index

Data sources for tables (Appendix)

APPENDIX 1 DATA SOURCES FOR TABLES

HOW TO FIND DATA SOURCES

All ABS statistics on the ABS website can be downloaded free of charge.

To find a labour market related publication, spreadsheet or datacube on the ABS website, go to <<https://www.abs.gov.au>> [Statistics - By Catalogue Number - 6. Labour Statistics and Prices]. All products can be accessed by catalogue number and subject e.g. to find the publication [Labour Force, Australia](#) (cat. no. 6202.0), look under '62. Labour force'. Select '6202.0 - Labour Force, Australia' and from the Summary tab select the Details tab.

No.	Table description	Data source	Notes
1.1	Labour force status: trend series	Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) 6202.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	
1.2	Age by marital status	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 1	
1.3	States and territories	Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6202.0) 6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 2	Excludes Capital city/balance of state
1.4	Educational attendance	6291.0.55.001 spreadsheet table 3a	More detailed Age
1.5	Country of birth	6291.0.55.001 data cube LM4	Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth

Year of arrival	6291.055.001 data cube LM5	Includes Sex, Age, State, less detailed Country of birth
1.6 Relationship in household	6291.055.001 data cube LM6 6291.055.001 data cube LM7 6291.055.001 data cube LM4 6291.055.001 data cube LM7 6291.055.001 data cube FM1 6291.055.001 data cube FM2 6291.055.001 data cube FM3 6291.055.001 data cube FM4	Includes Sex, State Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth Includes Sex, State, less detailed Country of birth Includes State Includes Age Includes Hours worked Unemployed persons only, includes Duration of unemployment
1.7 Families	6224.055.001 data cube FA2	
1.8 International comparisons	International Labour Organisation, LABORSTA database: http://laborsta.ilo.org	
2.1 Industry: trend	6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Employed full-time, Employed part-time
2.2 Industry: divisions and subdivisions	6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 6	Includes Sex, State, Hours worked, less detailed Industry
	6291.055.003 data cube EO3	Includes Sex, Age, Status in employment, Hours worked
	6291.055.003 data cube EO5	Includes Sex, State, Status in employment, Hours worked, more detailed Occupation
	6291.055.003 data cube EO6	Less detailed Occupation
2.3 Occupation	6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 7 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 12	Includes Hours worked, less detailed Occupation
	6291.055.003 data cube EO7	Includes Age, Hours worked, Status in employment
	6291.055.003 data cube EO8	Includes State, Status in employment, more detailed Occupation
2.4 Industry and occupation by full-time/part-time status	6291.055.003 data cube EO9	Includes State, Hours worked
2.5 Industry by status in employment	6291.055.003 data cube EO4 6291.055.003 data cube EO5 6291.055.003 data cube EO6 6291.055.003 data cube EO4 6291.055.003 data cube EO7 6291.055.003 data cube EO8	Includes Sex, State, excludes Industry Includes Sex, Age, more detailed Industry
Occupation by status in employment	6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 13	Includes Sex, State, more detailed Industry
Hours worked in all jobs by status in employment	6291.055.001 spreadsheet table 8 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 13 6291.055.003 data cube EO4 6291.055.003 data cube EO5 6291.055.003 data cube EO6 6291.055.003 data cube EO7 6291.055.003 data cube EO8	Includes Sex, State, excludes Occupation Includes Sex, Age, more detailed Occupation Includes Sex, State, more detailed Occupation Excludes Hours worked, includes Sex, Employed full-time, Employed part-time
2.6 Average hours worked in all jobs by Industry	6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 11 6291.055.003 data cube EO3 6291.055.003 data cube EO5 6291.055.003 data cube EO6 6291.055.003 data cube EO9 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 12	Includes Sex Includes Sex, State Includes Sex, Age, Industry Includes Sex, State, Industry
Actual hours worked in all jobs	6291.055.003 data cube EO7 6291.055.003 data cube EO8 6291.055.003 data cube EO9 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 12	Includes Sex, Age, Occupation Includes Sex, State, Occupation
2.7 Actual hours worked in all jobs	6291.055.001 spreadsheet table 9 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 11 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 12 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 13 6291.055.001 data cube EM1 6291.055.003 data cube EO3 6291.055.003 data cube EO4 6291.055.001 spreadsheet table 9 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 11 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 12 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 13 6291.055.001 data cube EM1 6291.055.003 data cube EO3 6291.055.003 data cube EO4	Includes Age, Status in employment, more detailed Occupation Includes State, Status in employment, more detailed Occupation Includes State, Industry
2.8 Actual hours worked in all jobs	6291.055.001 spreadsheet table 9 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 11 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 12 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 13 6291.055.001 data cube EM1 6291.055.003 data cube EO3 6291.055.003 data cube EO4 6291.055.001 spreadsheet table 9 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 11 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 12 6291.055.003 spreadsheet table 13 6291.055.001 data cube EM1 6291.055.003 data cube EO3 6291.055.003 data cube EO4 6291.055.001 spreadsheet table 10 6291.055.001 data cube EM3 6291.055.001 data cube EM1	Includes Age, State Includes State, Industry Includes State, Status in employment
Usual hours worked in all jobs	6291.055.001 data cube EM2 6291.055.003 data cube EO2	Includes Industry Includes Occupation Includes Status in employment
2.9 Full-time workers who worked less than 35 hours in all jobs	6291.055.003 data cube EM2	Includes Age, State Includes Age, State, Hours worked
Future employment expectations by whether 2.10 been with current employer/business less/more than 12 months	6291.055.003 data cube EO2	Includes Future employment expectations, whether been with current employer/business less/more than 12 months, State, Age
2.11 Public sector employees: state and territories	Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 6248.055.002)	

2.12 Public sector employees: Industry	Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia, 2008-09 (cat. no. 6248.055.002)	
3.1 Unemployed persons: duration of unemployment by age	6291.055.001 data cube UM2	Excludes Age, median duration of employment
3.2 Long-term unemployed	6291.055.001 data cube UM3 6291.055.001 spreadsheet table 14B	Excludes median Duration of unemployment
3.3 Unemployed persons: reason for unemployment by industry	6291.055.001 data cube UM2 6291.055.001 data cube UM3	Excludes trend data, includes State, more detailed Duration of unemployment
Unemployed persons: reason for unemployment by occupation	6291.055.003 data cube UQ1 6291.055.003 data cube UQ1	Excludes trend data, includes State, Age
4.1 Underutilised labour: trend series	6202.0 spreadsheet table 21	Excludes Industry of last job
4.2 Underutilised labour: seasonally adjusted series	6202.0 spreadsheet table 21	Excludes Industry of last job
4.3 Underutilised labour by state and territories: trend	6202.0 spreadsheet table 22	Excludes Occupation of last job
4.4 Underutilised labour by state and territories: seasonally adjusted	6202.0 spreadsheet table 22	Includes Underemployed workers, Underemployment rate, Underutilisation rate, Age, Sex
4.5 Underutilised labour by age: trend	6202.0 spreadsheet table 21	Includes Underemployed workers, Underemployment rate, Underutilisation rate, Age, Sex
4.6 Underemployed by industry and occupation	Labour Force Survey	Includes Underemployed workers, Underemployment rate, Underutilisation rate, Age, Sex
4.7 Persons not in the labour force	6291.055.001 data cube NM1 Labour Price Index, Australia (cat. no. 6345.0)	Data available on request
5.1 Wage price index	6345.0 spreadsheet table 1	
Wage price index: trend data	6345.0 spreadsheet table 2b	
Wage price index: Australia, state and territories	6345.0 spreadsheet table 3b	Includes State and territories
Wage price index: private sector	6345.0 spreadsheet table 4b	Includes State and territories
Wage price index: public sector	6345.0 spreadsheet table 5b	Includes Sector
Wage price index: industry	Average Weekly Earnings, Australia (cat. no. 6302.0)	
5.2 Average weekly earnings	6302.0 spreadsheet table 1	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
Average weekly earnings by sex	6302.0 spreadsheet table 4	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
Average weekly earnings: private sector	6302.0 spreadsheet table 7	Includes Full-time adult total earnings
Average weekly earnings: public sector	Australian National Accounts: National income, Expenditure and Product (cat. no. 5206.0)	
5.3 Compensation of employees	Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.055.001)	
6.1 Industrial disputes: working days lost	6321.055.001 spreadsheet table 3a	
Industrial disputes: working days lost by state	6321.055.001 spreadsheet table 2a	
Industrial disputes: working days lost by industry	Industrial Disputes, Australia (cat. no. 6321.055.001)	
6.2 Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees	6321.055.001 spreadsheet table 3b	
Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees by state	6321.055.001 spreadsheet table 2b	
Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees by industry	Job Vacancies, Australia (cat. no. 6354.0)	
7.1 Job vacancies	Job vacancies: Australia, states and territories	
	6354.0 spreadsheet table 1	
	Job vacancies: Industry	
	6354.0 spreadsheet table 4	

List of Articles (Appendix)

APPENDIX 2 LIST OF ARTICLES

July 2010

[Aggregate monthly hours worked](#)

[Trade union membership](#)

[Working time arrangements](#)

April 2010

Duration of underutilisation

Retrenched unemployed people

January 2010

Labour hire workers

October 2009

Methods of setting pay

Volume measures of labour underutilisation

July 2009

Historical labour underutilisation

Independent contractors

Jurisdictional coverage of pay-setting arrangements

Labour underutilisation in the economic downturn

Technical report: Extended labour force underutilisation rate

April 2009

Job flexibility of casual employees

Work and family balance

Spotlight: labour underutilisation

January 2009

Comparing unemployment and the claimant count

Jobless families

Retirement intentions

Spotlight on underutilisation

October 2008

Interstate commuters: An analysis of 2006 Census data

Measures of casual employment

July 2008

Quarterly labour force underutilisation rate

Technical report: Underenumeration in the Labour Force Survey: Findings of a Census data enhancement study

Spotlight: Employment type

Spotlight: Maternity leave

Spotlight: Underemployed workers

Spotlight: Volume measures of labour underutilisation

January 2008

Spotlight: First job starters

Technical report: Jurisdictional coverage of pay-setting arrangements

October 2007

Spotlight: Available labour of the unemployed

Technical report: Census and the Labour Force Survey

July 2007

Spotlight: Employment type

April 2007

[Spotlight: Methods of setting pay](#)

[Spotlight: Updated volume measures of labour underutilisation](#)

January 2007

[Technical report: ABS measures of employee remuneration](#)

October 2006

[Changes in where people work over time](#)

July 2006

[Job search experience of unemployed people](#)

[Labour force transitions](#)

[Spotlight: Employment type](#)

April 2006

[Spotlight: Updated volume measures of labour underutilisation](#)

January 2006

[Labour outcomes of migrants](#)

[The relationship between GDP and employment](#)

[Spotlight: Long-term unemployment](#)

October 2005

[Job starters](#)

[Comparison of ABS measures of employee remuneration](#)

[Spotlight: Employment type](#)

[Technical report: Standard error models for the Labour Force Survey](#)

[Technical report: Proposals from the review of ABS working arrangements statistics](#)

July 2005

[Full-time and part-time participation in Australia: a cohort analysis](#)

[Population, participation and productivity: contributions to Australia's economic growth](#)

[Spotlight: Employee share schemes](#)

[Technical report: Changes to coding processes for industry and occupation in the Labour Force Survey](#)

April 2005

[People who work few hours](#)

[Health, disability, age and labour force participation](#)

[Spotlight: Methods of setting pay](#)

[Spotlight: Annual measures of labour underutilisation](#)

January 2005

[Labour force participation in Australia](#)

[Experimental estimates of the average age at withdrawal from the labour force](#)

[Spotlight: Employment in information and communication technology \(ICT\)](#)

[Spotlight: Labour Price Index](#)

[Technical report: Implementation of computer assisted interviewing in the Labour Force Survey](#)

October 2004

[Changes in types of employment](#)

[Mature age people and the labour force](#)

July 2004

[Children living without an employed parent](#)

[Labour underutilisation](#)

[Spotlight: Industrial disputes](#)

[Technical report: Labour Force Survey regions](#)

April 2004

[Job search experience: methods and barriers in finding jobs](#)

[Trade union membership](#)

[Spotlight: Occupation](#)

[Technical report: Improvements to Labour Force estimates](#)

January 2004

[Employment in information and communication technology](#)

[Labour force participation: international comparison](#)

[Technical report: Changes to Labour Force Survey seasonal adjustment processes](#)

October 2003

[Labour market transitions of teenagers](#)

[Spotlight: Country of birth](#)

[Spotlight: Multiple job holders](#)

[Technical report: New Labour Force Survey sample selections: analysis of the effort on estimates](#)

July 2003

[Experimental volume measures of labour underutilisation](#)

[Unemployment and participation rates in Australia: a cohort analysis](#)

[Spotlight: Population, participation and productivity: contributions to Australia's economic growth](#)

[Technical report: Measures of weekly hours worked](#)

April 2003

[Do job vacancies provide a leading indicator of employment growth?](#)

[Characteristics of underemployed workers](#)

[Spotlight: Parental leave](#)

[Spotlight: Methods of setting pay](#)

[Technical report: Labour Force Survey sample redesign](#)

Related publications (Appendix)

APPENDIX 3 RELATED PUBLICATIONS

	cat. no.	Frequency	Reference period
Labour force supplementary surveys			
Childhood Education and Care, Australia	4402.0	Irregular	Jun 2008 (Reissue)
Child Employment, Australia	6211.0	Irregular	Jun 2006
Education and Work, Australia	6227.0	Annual	May 2009
Employee Earnings, Benefits & Trade Union Membership, Australia	6310.0	Annual	Aug 2009
Forms of Employment, Australia	6359.0	Annual	Nov 2009
Job Search Experience, Australia	6222.0	Annual	Jul 2009
Labour Force Experience, Australia	6206.0	Biennial	Feb 2009
Labour Force Status & Other Characteristics of Recent Migrants, Australia	6250.0	Triennial	Nov 2007
Labour Mobility, Australia	6209.0	Biennial	Feb 2010
Locations of Work, Australia	6275.0	Irregular	Nov 2008
Multiple Jobholding, Australia(a)	6216.0	Discontinued	Aug 1997
Persons Not in the Labour Force, Australia	6220.0	Annual	Sep 2009
Retrenchment & Redundancy, Australia(b)	6266.0	Discontinued	Jul 2001

Underemployed Workers, Australia	6265.0	Annual	Sep 2009
Working Time Arrangements, Australia	6342.0	Triennial	Nov 2009
Multi purpose household surveys			
Barriers and Incentives to Labour Force Participation, Australia	6239.0	Biennial	Jul 2008 to Jun 2009
Retirement and Retirement Intentions, Australia(c)	6238.0	Biennial	Jul 2008 to Jun 2009
Work-Related Injuries, Australia	6324.0	Four-yearly	2005-06
Sub-annual labour surveys			
Average Weekly Earnings, Australia	6302.0	Quarterly	May 2010
Industrial Disputes, Australia	6321.055.001	Quarterly	Jun 2010
Job Vacancies, Australia	6354.0	Quarterly	Aug 2010
Labour Force, Australia	6202.0	Monthly	Sep 2010
Labour Price Index, Australia	6345.0	Quarterly	Jun 2010
Wage & Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia(d)	6248.055.001	Discontinued	Jun qtr 2007
Other labour surveys			
Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia(d)	6248.055.002	Annual	2008-09
Employee Earnings & Hours, Australia	6306.0	Biennial	Aug 2008
Employer Training Expenditure & Practices, Australia	6362.0	Irregular	2001-02
Employment Arrangements, Retirement & Superannuation, Australia	6361.0	Irregular	Apr to Jul 2007 (reissue)
Labour Costs, Australia	6348.055.001	Irregular	2002-03
Labour Force Characteristics of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians, Estimates from the Labour Force Survey	6287.0	Annual	2009
Labour Force, Australia: Labour Force Status and Other Characteristics of Families	6224.055.001	Monthly	Jun 2009
Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs)			
Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, CURF, 1994-1997	6286.030.001	Discontinued	1994-97
Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns, 1994-1997: Expanded CURF	6286.055.001	Irregular	1994-97
Australians' Employment and Unemployment Patterns: Expanded CURF, Technical Paper	6286.055.002	Irregular	1994-97
Microdata: Childhood Education and Care, Expanded CURF, Australia	4402.055.001	Irregular	Jun 2008
Childhood Education and Care, Australia, Expanded CURF, Technical Manual	4402.055.002	Irregular	Jun 2008
Employee Earnings and Hours, Australia, Expanded CURF, Technical Manual	6306.055.002	Irregular	May 2006
Microdata: Labour Force Survey and Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Basic and Expanded CURF, Australia	6202.030.001	Biennial	Aug 2008
Labour Force Survey and Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia: Basic CURF, Technical Paper	6202.030.002	Biennial	Aug 2008
Labour Force Survey and Employee Earnings, Benefits and Trade Union Membership, Australia: Expanded CURF	6202.030.003	Biennial	Aug 2006
Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility, Australia: Basic and Expanded CURF	6202.030.004	Irregular	Feb 2008
Labour Force Survey and Labour Mobility, Australia: Basic and Expanded CURF, Technical Manual	6202.030.005	Irregular	Feb 2008
Microdata: Employment Arrangements, Retirement and Superannuation, Expanded CURF, Australia	6361.055.001	Irregular	Apr to Jul 2007
Microdata: Employee Earnings and Hours, Expanded CURF, Australia	6306.055.001	Irregular	May 2006
Technical manual: Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Basic and Expanded CURFs, Australia	6278.055.001	Irregular	2009
Microdata: Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Basic CURF, Australia	6278.055.002	Irregular	2009
Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Expanded CURF, Technical Manual	6278.055.003	Irregular	2005
Microdata: Survey of Education and Training, Australia, Expanded CURF, Australia	6278.055.004	Irregular	2009
Microdata: Survey of Education and Work, Basic CURF, Australia, May 2009	6227.030.001	Biennial	2009
Survey of Income and Housing - CURF, Technical Manual	6541.0	Irregular	2007-08
Microdata: Income and Housing, Basic and Expanded CURF, Australia, 2007-08	6541.030.001	Irregular	2007-08
Information papers and other reference material			
ABS Labour Market Statistics, Australia	6106.055.001	Irregular	2003
Expansion of Hours Worked Estimates from the Labour Force Survey	6290.055.001	Irregular	2009
Australian National Accounts: Concepts, Sources & Methods	5216.0	Irregular	2000
Changes to ABS Measures of Employee Remuneration	6313.0	Irregular	2006
Changes to Labour Force Survey Products	6297.0	Irregular	2003
Estimating Average Annual Hours Worked	1352.055.077	Irregular	Jun 2006
Forthcoming Changes to Labour Forces Statistics	6292.0	Irregular	2007
Improvements to Family Estimates from the Labour Force Survey	6224.055.002	Irregular	2008
Labour Force Survey Sample Design	6269.0	Irregular	Nov 2007 (third edition)
Labour Force Survey Standard Errors	6298.0	Irregular	2005
Labour Force Survey Standard Errors, Data Cube	6298.055.001	Irregular	Oct 2009
Labour Force Survey Standard Products and Data Item Guide	6103	Irregular	Dec 2009
Labour Price Index: Concepts, Sources & Methods	6351.055.001	Irregular	2004
Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources & Methods	6102.055.001	Irregular	Apr 2007
Labour Statistics in Brief, Australia	6104.0	Annual	2010
Labour Statistics News	6106.0	Biannual	Aug 2010
Questionnaires Used in the Labour Force Survey	6232.0	Irregular	2004
Year Book, Australia	1301.0	Annual	2009-10
Other publications			
Australian Economic Indicators	1350.0	Monthly	Oct 2010
Australian National Accounts: National Income, Expenditure & Product	5206.0	Quarterly	Jun 2010
Australian Social Trends	4102.0	Quarterly	Sept 2010
Australian System of National Accounts	5204.0	Annual	2008-09
Business Indicators, Australia	5676.0	Quarterly	Jun 2010
Census of Population & Housing: Selected Education & Labour Force Characteristics, Australia	2017.0	Irregular	2001
Education & Training Indicators, Australia	4230.0	Irregular	2002
General Social Survey: Summary Results, Australia	4159.0	Irregular	2006
Government Benefits, Taxes & Household Income, Australia	6537.0	Irregular	2003-04

Household Income & Income Distribution, Australia	6523.0	Biennial	2007-08
Measures of Australia's Progress	1370.0	Irregular	2010
Regional Wage & Salary Earner Statistics, Australia	5673.0.55.001	Irregular	2003-04
Superannuation: Coverage & Financial Characteristics, Australia	6360.0	Irregular	2000
Voluntary Work, Australia	4441.0	Irregular	2006

(a) Related data available from Labour Mobility.

(b) Previously conducted as a labour force supplementary survey until 1997, data now collected as part of the Multi Purpose Household Survey.

(c) Previously conducted as a labour force supplementary survey in 2000, data now collected as part of the Multi Purpose Household Survey.

(d) The quarterly survey of Employment and Earnings, Public Sector has been replaced with an annual survey, commencing with the 2007-08 reference year. As a result, the June quarter 2007 was the final issue of Wage and Salary Earners, Public Sector, Australia (cat. no. 6248.0.55.001). Data from the annual survey are released in Employment and Earnings, Public Sector, Australia (cat. no. 6248.0.55.002).

List of Tables

The tables listed below are included in the publication **Australian Labour Market Statistics** (cat. no. 6105.0). Electronic sources of the data in these tables can be found in **Appendix 1**.

LIST OF TABLES

LABOUR FORCE STATUS

- 1.1** Trend
- .2** Age by social marital status
- 1.3** States and territories, and capital cities
- 1.4** Educational attendance (aged 15-24)
- 1.5** Country of birth by year of arrival in Australia
- 1.6** Relationship in household
- .7** All families: family type by labour force status
- .8** International comparisons

EMPLOYED PERSONS

- .1** Industry: trend
- 2.2** Industry division and subdivision
- 2.3** Occupation major group and sub-major group
- .4** Industry and occupation by full-time/part-time status
- 2.5** Industry and occupation by status in employment
- 2.6** Actual hours worked: industry and occupation
- 2.7** Actual hours worked
- 2.8** Actual and usual hours worked
- 2.9** Full-time workers who worked less than 35 hours
- 2.10** Future employment expectations by job tenure
- 2.11** Public sector employees: states and territories
- 2.12** Public sector employees: industry

UNEMPLOYED PERSONS

- 3.1** Duration of unemployment by age
- 3.2** Long-term unemployed persons: trend
- 3.3** Reason for unemployment by industry and occupation of last job

LABOUR UNDERUTILISATION

- 4.1** Labour underutilisation: trend
- 4.2** Labour underutilisation: seasonally adjusted
- 4.3** Labour underutilisation by states and territories: trend
- 4.4** Labour underutilisation by states and territories: seasonally adjusted
- 4.5** Labour underutilisation by age: trend
- 4.6** Underemployed persons: industry and occupation
- .7** Persons not in the labour force: whether looking for work

EARNINGS/LABOUR COSTS

- 5.1** i
- 5.2** Average weekly earnings: trend
- 5.3** Compensation of employees and related measures: trend

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

- 6.1** Industrial disputes: working days lost
- 6.2** Industrial disputes: working days lost per 1,000 employees

JOB VACANCIES

- 7.1** Job vacancies

Data Cubes (I-Note) - Data Cubes

6105.0 Table 1. Extended labour force underutilisation rate is updated on an annual basis. It was last updated in this July 2010 issue of 6105.0.

Data Cubes (I-Note) - Data Cubes

6105.0 Table 1.2. Volume measures of labour underutilisation is updated on an annual basis. It was last updated in this July 2010 issue of 6105.0.

Data Cubes (I-Note) - Data Cubes

6105.0 Table 2. Employment type 1992-2009 is updated on an annual basis. It was last updated in this July 2010 issue of 6105.0.

© Commonwealth of Australia

All data and other material produced by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) constitutes Commonwealth copyright administered by the ABS. The ABS reserves the right to set out the terms and conditions for the use of such material. Unless otherwise noted, all material on this website – except the ABS logo, the Commonwealth Coat of Arms, and any material protected by a trade mark – is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution 2.5 Australia licence